



THE WEATHER

Forecast: Partly cloudy, with local rain in N. Sinai and N. Negev. Weather systems: Shallow trough over E. Mediterranean continues instability in the region.

Yesterday's	Yesterday's	Today's
High/Low	High/Low	High/Low
Jerusalem 87/54	87/54	87/54
Golan 82/49	82/49	82/49
Nahariya 83/50	83/50	83/50
Safed 83/50	83/50	83/50
Haifa Port 88/55	88/55	88/55
Tiberias 77/44	77/44	77/44
Nahariya 75/42	75/42	75/42
Afula 75/42	75/42	75/42
Shomron 83/50	83/50	83/50
Tel Aviv 88/55	88/55	88/55
E.G. Airport 80/47	80/47	80/47
Jericho 82/49	82/49	82/49
Beersheva 80/47	80/47	80/47
Eilat 83/50	83/50	83/50
Tiran Straits 84/51	84/51	84/51

Social and Personal

President Ephraim Katzir yesterday received the Civil Service Commission, Ya'akov Nitzan, who handed him the commission's 25th annual report.

Defence Minister Shimon Peres yesterday toured the Gaza Strip in the company of senior army officers and met with Gaza Mayor Rashad Shawa.

Rehov Rishpon in Tel Aviv was yesterday officially renamed Sderot Keren Kayemet, in a ceremony attended by IDF chairman Ya'akov Tsur and Mayor Shlomo Lahat.

Prof. H. Bank will open an exhibition of oil paintings by Shulamit Golan at Beit Mahayal, 80 Rehov Weizmann, Tel Aviv, at 7 p.m. today. Part of the proceeds go to the Sheba Medical Centre at Tel Hashomer.

Dr. Eliezer Jaffe, Senior Lecturer in Social Work at the Hebrew University, last week was awarded the Bernard Revel Memorial Award for Community and Community Service Leadership. The award was presented at a Yeshiva College alumni conference in Jerusalem.

Attorney Uzi Atzmon was yesterday elected chairman of the Jerusalem Branch of the Council for a Beautiful Israel. Journalist Yitzhak Tishler became chairman of the planning committee, and Dr. Dan Ronen, adviser to the Minister of Education and Culture, continues to serve as chairman of the education committee.

The Tel Aviv-Jaffa Rotary Club will hear Shmuel Toledano, the Prime Minister's adviser on minority affairs, at its weekly meeting today, 1.15 p.m., at the ZO'A House, Tel Aviv.

ARRIVALS

Sisa Novaksky, president of WZOO, Costa Rica, with a solidarity group of 40 persons from Costa Rica, will arrive tomorrow, 2:00 p.m., at the Hadassah Medical Organization, from New York, for Hadassah and Jewish Agency consultations.

DEPARTURES

Prof. Robin Becker of the Department of Development and Child Care at Hadassah University Hospital, Jerusalem, for the U.S. and Europe, to deliver a series of lectures on child psychiatry and problems of children in hospital.

To Mr. Ivor Goletka

We mourn with you the death of your

FATHER

ZIPORA and ILAN BERKE

Our sympathies to the

Ivor Goletka Family

on your sad loss.

Staff of the shop,
Dov Berke Bearings

On the first anniversary of the death of our beloved

MARGALIT SELA

a Memorial Service will be held on Tuesday, January 6, 1976 at 3:00 p.m. at the New Cemetery in Rehovot.

Family and friends will meet at the entrance to the cemetery. A bus will leave for the cemetery from the Wix Auditorium at 2.45 p.m.

After the memorial service a library bearing the name of MARGALIT SELA

will be dedicated in the Kifar Gvirol Youth Centre, at 4.00 p.m. THE FAMILY

Our sympathies to Yael and the Lewis Family on the tragic death of our friend

MOSHE (Malkolm)

WUJS Graduates and Activists
in Israel and the Diaspora

World Union of Jewish Students

Despite Government promises...

No drop seen in price of car parts

By ERNIE MEYER

Jerusalem Post Reporter

Motorists expecting to pay only IL64 today for a Bosch or Hella Volkswagen headlight which cost IL80 yesterday will be disappointed. In the first place, the 20 per cent reduction in the price of safety-related spare parts announced by the Transport Ministry this week will in fact only work out to about 17 per cent. Arye Rubin, head of the garage branch in the ministry, explained yesterday that while the 12.5 per cent reduction on purchase tax for safety parts and the 7.5 per cent reduction in customs on all spares does add up to 20 per cent, the actual reduction "for administrative purposes" will only amount to 17 per cent.

In the second place, although the reductions go into force today, their effect at the sales counter will only be felt in six weeks to three months. This is because present stocks were taxed at the old, higher rates.

"Stocks will still be mixed for up to three months, but we expect to issue orders to reduce prices on new stocks by the middle of February," he said. By the end of March the prices on all the parts concerned should be reduced, he added.

Rubin said that about 80 per cent of all garages in the country are now licensed and under full minis-

try control. Inspectors will check prices of spares at garages, and customers are entitled to see price lists at dealers, he said. "We will exercise a double control, one at the importers and the other at the garage level," he added.

Ministry circles see the 12.5 per cent reduction on safety spares as an initial step, to be followed by further reductions later.

But here's the catch. Checking with car agencies in the Capital yesterday, *The Jerusalem Post* learned that constant price rises of parts at sources in their home countries are likely to offset much of the reductions here. A side-view mirror for the Peugeot 404 model costing IL130 now should cost only IL108 after it has been imported under the new regulations. A 10-12 per cent price increase in France, however, is likely to nullify this reduction. At best, customers may continue to pay the same prices they are paying now, because price rises at source are almost continual in all countries producing cars, a veteran parts clerk said.

Drivers buying locally made safety spares for their imported cars may enjoy the full 12.5 per cent reduction in the purchase tax. That is, unless local prices, too, go up in the meantime.

U.S. to deport entire crew of Israeli tanker

Jerusalem Post Reporter and Agencies

The U.S. Immigration Department on Tuesday ordered all 27 officers and men of the Israeli-owned tanker *Niuta*, stalled in the Mississippi River for three weeks by rebellious crewmen to leave the U.S., a lawyer for the owners said on Tuesday in New Orleans.

"The Immigration Department has issued an order that all men leave the ship by January 8," said James Kemp Jr. attorney for Tanker Services Ltd. "That order is being served to them right now."

Kemp had filed suit in Federal District Court to force removal of the crew because of disciplinary problems that prevented the ship from being moored and loaded. The hearing had been set for yesterday morning, but it was dismissed.

"This is the best thing that could have happened," Kemp said. "We've accomplished everything we set out to do without the necessity of a long trial."

Greece knocks Israel out of youth soccer tourney

By JACK LEON

Jerusalem Post Sports Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Greece yesterday knocked Israel out of the second international youth (under-18) soccer tournament, as two goals from striker Georgios Semergidis gave them a comfortable 2:0 victory over the defending champions at Kiryat Haim, Haifa.

Israel thus collected only one point from its two Group A matches, following Tuesday's 1:1 draw against Austria.

The after-looking Greeks scored a goal in each half, dominating the exchanges for much of the 90 minutes with an impressive display

of attacking football — which deserved a bigger gallery than the 1,000 people who braved the cold weather.

Sweden, meanwhile, took a big step towards the finals of the seven-nation meet at Bloomfield stadium on Monday, by defeating Denmark 1:0 in Eilat to register its second consecutive win and collect four points in Group B.

In another Group B fixture, Switzerland and Rumania tied 1:1 in Kiryat Haim. The Swedes only need to draw against Switzerland to ensure their place in the last round, when the two countries clash tomorrow in Beersheva. However, a sizable victory for Switzerland could still put them through by virtue of four points and a better goal difference than Sweden.

The Group A winner depends on the outcome of tomorrow's game between Austria and Greece at Beit Shean.

Ora Namir to head forum on women

Ora Namir, MK (Alignment), will head the new Committee on the Status of Women in Israel, the Prime Minister's Office announced yesterday.

The establishment of the committee, whose specific duties will be outlined in the near future, was decided upon at last Sunday's Cabinet meeting. The Cabinet gave the Prime Minister authority to determine the composition of the committee and the scope of its function.

KISSINGER

(Continued from page one) had made no effort to publicize the hearing.

Gwertzman quoted Kissinger's aides as saying that they were surprised, therefore, when Kissinger told Sen. Hubert Humphrey's (D-Minn.) Senate subcommittee on November 19, only a week after the Saunders testimony, that Saunders had presented "a somewhat academic exercise explaining in a purely theoretical manner several aspects of the Palestinian problem as Mr. Saunders saw them." This gave the impression that he had not been involved.

Rep. Lee Hamilton (D-Ind.), the chairman of the House subcommittee where Saunders testified, was therefore puzzled whether the Deputy Assistant Secretary had been speaking only on his behalf, or whether he was voicing the Administration's views. Hamilton asked Kissinger to explain in a letter what his role had been.

But in his response, Kissinger was evasive, and Hamilton said that it was not satisfactory. He asked Kissinger for additional clarification, but Kissinger has not yet responded.

Gwertzman, meanwhile, concluded in his report that the Ford Administration is "looking for ways of breaking the impasse in Middle East negotiations" and "has undertaken a cautious effort to open up for serious discussion by Israelis and Arabs the question of how to deal with the PLO."



President Katzir greets Anglican Bishop Najib Kubeish of Jerusalem yesterday at the annual presidential reception for Christian leaders in honor of Christmas and New Year. The reception at Prof. Katzir's official residence was attended by leaders of all the Christian communities and by Religious Affairs Minister Yitzhak Rabin, Tourism Minister Moshe Kol and Jerusalem Mayor Teddy Kollek. The President told the clergymen that tolerance among the various religious communities was "one of Israel's dearest assets," and hoped there would be a similar atmosphere of "understanding and tolerance" in neighboring Arab states. Greek Orthodox Patriarch Benedictos (facing right in the picture), replying on behalf of the Christian leaders, thanked the Israeli authorities for their cooperation and assistance. (Barzilai)

Hazan proposes J'lem boroughs

Jerusalem Post Staff

TEL AVIV. — Veteran Mapam leader Ya'akov Hazan yesterday outlined his plan to make Jerusalem "the city heralding peace and brotherhood in the world" by giving it a religious and ethnic borough structure.

Hazan stressed to the Mapam Political Committee that Jerusalem must remain united and the capital of the State of Israel. But its municipality, he said, should delegate responsibility to separate subsidiary townships covering areas inhabited predominantly by Jews or Arabs, and the 3,000 Armenians should be entitled to a governing committee of their own.

Under his plan the Old City would become a "peace capital," managed by a council equally representing the three major monotheistic religions. The holy places within it would get extra-territorial status, managing their religious affairs as they wish, while lay administration and security in the Old City and holy sites would remain the responsibility of the Israeli authorities.

The Temple Mount would be among the extra-territorial sites,

and would be managed by the Moslem component of the Old City council. Israel would guarantee the right of all Moslems to make pilgrimages to the Mount, and if the Jewish religious establishment were to agree with Chief Rabbi Shlomo Goren that Jews are allowed to set foot on part of the Mount, an appropriately shaped shed would be constructed to accommodate Jewish worshippers. Jews and Moslems would then solemnly undertake not to change the arrangements.

"If and when a confederation is established with an Arab state to Israel's east," Hazan continued, "the City of Jerusalem would arrange for the construction within its precincts of a Capitol of the Confederation."

One of the conditions for the cultural autonomy Hazan would give the national townships in Jerusalem would be an undertaking "to educate children in the spirit of loyalty to the State of Israel, good citizenship, mutual tolerance and fostering of cooperation between the two peoples."

Hazan said that in sketching his plan he had taken into account Je-

rusalem's being a symbol of Jewish revival as well as a holy site for Moslems, Christians, especially Catholics, he noted, have not altogether abandoned the idea of wrangling Jerusalem, especially the Old City, from Jewish sovereignty. Thus "we, the Jews, have to find an answer to all the complicated questions which the future of Jerusalem poses."

Though his plan might seem like squaring the circle, it was "politically possible," he felt. Moreover, were a solution to be tried from the outside, "it would antagonize the whole of the Jewish people, and were we to abandon our rights internally, it would lead to the threshold of civil war."

Hazan commended Jerusalem Mayor Teddy Kollek for his "extraordinary wisdom" in handling the affairs of the city. He told the meeting he was thoroughly shocked by a motion from Mapam Knesset Member Eliezer Roman, who thought the Political Committee would have done better to discuss the question of Israel's participation at the January 12 Security Council meeting.

The Jerusalem municipal spokesman yesterday denied reports that Mayor Teddy Kollek had given his blessing to Hazan's plan. He said Hazan, "whom (Kollek) personally respects," had met with the Mayor several months ago for a private conversation. At that time Hazan outlined his proposal in general terms. "He didn't ask for Kollek's approval, and Kollek didn't adopt the plan," the spokesman said.

A Mapam spokesman added after last night's session that the idea had never been raised before at any official forum or with any official body, including the Jerusalem Municipality.

Knesset to debate Israel-EEC ties

Jerusalem Post Knesset Reporter

The Knesset decided yesterday to stage a plenary debate on the development of economic ties between Israel and the European Economic Community.

Foreign Minister Yigal Allon said in reply to a motion for the agenda by Abba Eban that Israel bore no envy with regard to the EEC's negotiations with seven Arab states. With an eye to the possible outcome of such negotiations, Israel had reached an agreement in principle with the EEC that it would automatically receive the same favorable concessions which might

be granted to Egypt, Lebanon, Syria and Jordan.

Allon said the agreements with the Arab states would also include a ban on discrimination, aimed at thwarting the Arab economic boycott of Israel.

With all the importance attached to the agreements concluded thus far, Allon said, Israel's aim was and would be to attain the full status of associate member in the EEC, the highest rank which the Rome Convention provides, for non-European states.

Eban predicted that Israel's economy might suffer a severe shock when tariff barriers with countries of the European Economic Community came down. Industries might be hard hit in four or five years, he predicted. Businesses must not nullify themselves into a false sense of security because the cutoff date, 1982, seems so distant.

Eban said Israel still had to press hard to get the EEC to conclude additional agreements concerning financial, economic, scientific and technological cooperation. Without these agreements, there would be no chance of closing the big gap in Israel's favor in its balance of payments with the EEC — some \$1,300m. annually. This Israeli "contribution" to the EEC was beyond its powers, he stressed.

He expressed his satisfaction that the Parliament of Europe only a fortnight ago passed a resolution urging the Council of Ministers to conclude such cooperation agreements with all species.

Eban warned that when seven Arab states concluded their own agreements with the EEC, perhaps in 1976, Israel would lose its unique status as the first Mediterranean state sharing economic ties with the Nine.

Tomer guilty of stealing IL6m. from Eilat

By HAIM SHAHAM

Jerusalem Post Reporter

BEERSHEBA. — Businessman Avner Tomer was convicted in District Court here yesterday of the theft of more than IL6m. from the Eilat Municipality, by selling duplicate promissory notes and charging inflated rates of interest.

Judge Meir Valinsky spent eight hours of the 12-hour court session reading out the 150-page judgement.

The judgement said Tomer had received promissory notes worth IL11m. from the city on false claims, and returned only IL5m.

After hearing 60 court sessions over six months, Judge Valinsky called Tomer an "excellent businessman" with the style of a "falling star" — but he accepted not one of the defence claims made during the trial.

Though his attorney, Arye Kammer, Tomer claimed that the money had not been stolen, but extracted legally at an interest rate of 150 per cent. He said yesterday that he would appeal the decision to the Supreme Court.

District prosecutor Ya'akov Kraushaar requested a sentence of 10 years in prison. Sentencing was postponed until January 12.

Eliav won't quit Palestine body

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Knesset Member Arye Eliav yesterday told the committee of the founding Ya'ad party that he would not leave the "Council for Peace Between Israelis and Palestinians," which he helped found a few weeks ago.

It was his link with the group that prompted the leaders of Ya'ad's ex-Citizens Rights Movement component, Knesset Members Shulamit Aloni and Boaz Levy, to declare last week that the party no longer exists. Most of the CRM contingent boycotted last night's meeting.

Eliav said he might have acted wrongly in not asking Ya'ad sanction for joining the body. But he was "left" in his convictions, and did not mind that many members of the Israel-Palestine council were also leftists.

At the start of the meeting, a letter from attorney Ram Caspi, addressed to the "former Ya'ad Council," was read, warning that no resolution taken by the meeting would have legal standing or bind Aloni or members of the CRM.

AIRPORT TAX was raised at midnight last night to IL50. The airport management said the IL3 rise would save time spent giving change.

Eight arrested after day-long customs raids

By ARTHUR KEMELMAN

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. Eight persons were arrested yesterday as the result of dawn-to-dusk raids conducted by the Customs Investigation Department with the aim of catching individuals illicitly bringing merchandise into the country.

The raids carried out in various parts of the country with the cooperation of the police and income tax authorities netted goods valued unofficially at millions of pounds. Merchandise seized included jewellery, diamonds, foreign currency, cloth and electrical appliances.

According to Moshe Landau, deputy director of the department, prime targets of the raids were importers and clothing manufacturers, who it is believed are receiving export incentives while producing goods in the local market. Uter of Ashkelon, coat manufacturers, was closed down while the investigators inventoried goods in a comparison with company declaration and Government records, it was reported.

Landau said the investigations were in their initial stages, with goods still being inventoried for checking against customs declarations. Emphasizing that the target was not a smuggling ring, he said the department was seeking individuals breaking the law in an attempt to earn quick and easy profits.

The persons arrested will appear in court today.

New Year's Eve hotel parties booked solid

Jerusalem Post Staff

TEL AVIV. — Tel Aviv's leading hotels reported last night that their New Year's Eve balls were booked solid.

Not a ticket remained unsold, despite the high prices of between IL70 to IL200 a person. Although the balls were initially planned for the many foreign visitors spending the holiday season here, about half the tickets were purchased by Israelis.

In Jerusalem, too, it was "full house" at the few hotels that marked the night. The Intercontinental was fully booked by noon and by evening it was, "Sorry, no more places" at the Hilton.

But most Israelis spent the evening at home, in front of their television sets as usual.

In Haifa, the port police strengthened their patrols to assure hundreds of foreign seamen a safe passage from 1975 to 1976. The out for the night on the look-out for mariners trying on unsteady feet to get back to their ships after spending the last evening of the old year in downtown bars. The Sylvester patrols were set up because, in the past, sailors no longer distinguishing between shore and water fell off the quay.

Eight Arab students quit dorms, refused guard duty

By ERNIE MEYER

Jerusalem Post Reporter

Eight Arab students handed in the keys of their dormitory rooms to Hebrew University officials last night, responding to eviction notices sent them a month ago for failing to do guard duty.

Another 40 Arab students, however, received eviction notices with deadlines spread a week apart over this month. The notices were sent out last month as groups of the students were called up for guard duty each week but refused to serve. They were called before a committee composed of the dean of students, a representative of the Student Union and the chairman of the university's security committee.

This process of calling up the approximately 300 Arab students living in university dormitories will continue, a university source said last night. The vacated rooms will not be assigned to other students for the time being. If agreement on guard duty can be reached with the

Arabs before the beginning of the second trimester, in 10 days, they will be welcome to return to their old quarters, the source said.

Representatives of the Student Union at 8.30 yesterday morning waited in vain for Arab student leaders to show up at a meeting which had been tentatively scheduled for the night before. A last attempt at finding a compromise formula for the guard duty issue was to be made at this meeting, after several attempts at reaching agreement had failed before.

The Jewish students — and under their pressure the university — insist that Arab students enjoying the privileges of dormitory residence do some form of active guard duty. The Arab students feel, however, bound not to take part in such duty. They have agreed to man first-aid rooms, without, however, making rounds outside the buildings to check for explosives.

Eviction from the dormitories does not affect the academic standing of the students concerned.

Bankruptcy move against Pnidar

Jerusalem Post Reporter

HAIFA. — The Haifa Labour Council yesterday asked the District Court for a bankruptcy declaration against the Pnidar Investment, Development and Building Company, which owes its workers October and November wages and other long-standing debts.

Over the past five years Pnidar had acted as one of the major housing companies in the North. But in recent months, as a result of the building slump, it has become mired in financial difficulties. Today it owes the Building Workers Fund IL160,000 in social benefits due since March, and another IL340,000 to some of its 200 workers.

Labour Council attorney Yisrael Gil said in his application to the court that he would add to the list of Pnidar's debts claims for about IL250,000 in unpaid wages for several dozen additional workers.

He also states that Association of Building Contractors here had several times asked the Labour Council to postpone the application in the hope of finding an alternative

Swiss bank claims Rosenbaum's assets

TEL AVIV. — The International Credit Bank of Geneva has asked the Tel Aviv District Court to cancel the receivership imposed on the assets of Tibor Rosenbaum, claiming that most of the assets belong to the bank and not to Rosenbaum.

In his petition to the court, the bank's lawyer claims that Rosenbaum mortgaged or transferred most of his assets here to the bank before International Credit went into liquidation. Among the assets are shares in Lodzia, Aia, Ramta and other companies, as well as a 15-dunam plot in Ashdod. The receiver has not yet responded to the International Credit Bank's suit.

The Minister of Social Welfare,

ZEVULUN HAMMER,
and the Ministry Directoratewish all Christian employees and all
Christian residents

A Happy New Year

May this holiday bring peace and progress
to all residents of the area.

Deficit in balance of payments hits \$4b.

By GIDION ESHET

Jerusalem Post Economic Reporter

With a deficit in the balance of payments of \$4b., Israel achieved its second world financial record in 1975, according to Prof. Michael Bruno, adviser on economic policy to the Finance Minister.

He told the monthly meeting of the Jerusalem Economic Club yesterday that Israel's deficit now tops Canada's \$3,900m.

The other record has been long standing — Israel "imports" more foreign currency per person than any other country in the world.

Prof. Bruno challenged the Government to make good on the financial policy adopted by the Cabinet last week. He expressed fears about the policy because of the way Cabinet members, and others, spoke about their budgets.

"It is a natural tendency for ministers to seek higher budgets," he declared. "In the past they were successful. It is imperative that they fail in 1976."

He asserted that, with smaller budgets, the ministers should cut manpower but not cut purchases of goods and services. He also called for greater efficiency, particularly in the weekly exodus of ministers and government employees from Jerusalem to Tel Aviv. He

said the waste not only involves maintaining two offices, but in travelling time, fuel consumed and the hidden unemployment created in Jerusalem when officials are in Tel Aviv.

He failed to see the need for an additional budget, unless forced by a war or massive unemployment.

Prof. Bruno compared the economic plan (the national budget) for the coming year to the economic achievements of the past year. The Gross National Product was supposed to increase by 3 per cent as a result of an 8 per cent increase in exports. When exports failed to increase, mainly because of shrinking world markets, the GNP remained unchanged compared with 1974. The 4 per cent drop in imports was both planned and achieved.

Noting that defence imports increased by \$800m. above the predictions, he warned that the danger of increase also exists in 1976. The Cabinet decided to transfer \$150m. from the foreign currency defence budget to the pound budget (for purchases in Israel). This, he stated, could benefit the economy only if defence imports are cut by this amount. This was not achieved last year, but hopefully will be achieved in 1976.

With regard to government policy on foreign investments, especially in light of creeping devaluations, Prof. Bruno declared that Israel welcomes any foreign investments. However, he believed foreign investors should not be granted special terms not given Israelis. As to the impact of devaluations, he explained that the subject is under review by a committee due to report within one month. In any event, he foresaw no problems for those who invest in the export industry.

"When one exports, the devaluations have no impact on investors' profits," he said. "They might lose if they invested for local consumption, but this kind of investment is what Israel doesn't need," he explained.

Prof. Bruno restated the Treasury's support for a wage freeze in the public sector. Increasing wages by 5 per cent will cost the Government about \$1,700m, he said. This will cause higher inflation, which will result in a decline in real wages or in unemployment.

"The Histadrut should be aware that it is impossible to increase real wages and have full employment simultaneously," he concluded.

Trial opens of discotheque bomb suspect

TEL AVIV. — The trial of Avraham Ezra, charged with hurling a hand grenade into a Netanya discotheque last February and killing six persons, opened yesterday in District Court here.

Proceedings, which started in April, had been held up until psychiatrists found the suspect fit for trial.

The first witness for the prosecution, was David Dadoon of Beer-sheva, who was in the same army tent as Ezra, now 25, when they worked together moving munitions. Dadoon, who was declared a hostile witness in the midst of his testimony, said he was present when Ezra unpacked a crate of grenades and their sergeant said "Watch out, you could kill everyone." He said he didn't know whether Ezra returned the grenades he took out to the crate.

The prosecutor, Sara Sirota, presented the suspect's testimony after his arrest, in which he said he intended to hurt no one, but wanted to "make noise" by exploding the grenade on the roof of the Bar Orion discotheque.

The defence attorney, Aharon Ben-Shahar, objected to the testimony, saying it was extracted under force, after the suspect had been beaten. The judges, Mordechai Tchernobolsky, Haim Bental and Nehemia Bar, rejected the defence claim.

Psychiatrists said Ezra was not cooperating with anyone. In the courtroom he sat quietly, apparently oblivious to the proceedings.

2 remanded in Bat Yam holdup

TEL AVIV. — A barber and a tire repairman were remanded on Tuesday on suspicion of complicity in the robbery of IL118,000 in a Bat Yam bank on Sunday. The money was grabbed from Shalom Fallah, manager of a petrol station, just as he was about to deposit it in the Sderot Ha'atzmaut branch of the First International Bank.

Magistrate Yehoshua Ben-Shalom ordered the barber, Amar Solomon, aged 27, held for 10 days. The police interrogator said that Solomon had blocked the road with his car to prevent passers-by from pursuing the bandits, who got away in a stolen car.

The second suspect, Hani Saadia, was described as a tire repairman who works not far from the petrol station. He is suspected of having supplied the robbers with information about the time that the money would be taken to the bank. He was ordered detained for five days.

The police say they know who the robbers were, but that they have disappeared. (Itim)



Firemen put out the blaze at the Vered furniture company early yesterday morning. (Uzi Karen)

Second Tel Aviv furniture fire guts carpentry shop

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — The carpentry shop belonging to the Vered furniture company on Rehov Herzl here went up in flames about midnight on Tuesday. Damage is estimated at close to a million pounds.

Unlike the blaze at the nearby Mars furniture building the day before, this fire was not thought to be arson. (Three of the four men arrested for the Mars fire, which was extinguished before the petrol splashed upper floors could ignite, have meanwhile been released for lack of evidence.)

The flames at Vered were spotted by a watchman at the nearby Discount Bank offices, who summoned the fire brigade. Three fire trucks were soon on the scene, and had the blaze out within three hours. A police team was also on hand to look for the cause of the fire.

Vered owner Michael Vered, who was summoned to the scene, appeared shocked by the blaze. He told him there had been a fire at the carpentry shop a year ago — just one week after another fire at Mars.

He added that a week ago the shop had been broken into and rolls of material stolen.

Police regard Monday's Mars fire as arson. Three fires in the past year at Mars and at nearby furniture salons have given rise to rumours that a protection ring is attempting to move into the area.

However, a new angle has come to light in the Mars case. A check of the cellar to which the fire was confined revealed that bolts of upholstery material worth IL250,000 had been stolen. This raises the possibility, police say, that the fire was set to cover the tracks of the thieves.

However, they reject the idea that the Vered blaze was set to cover the IL250,000 theft since this week — because of the time interval.

The fire at Vered left the furniture showroom untouched. A secretary at Vered explained that, like Mars, Vered has suffered three fires over the past few years; as a safety precaution, therefore, a heavy concrete wall had been built between the carpentry shop and the showroom.

Astrologer sees 'serious military steps'

What the stars have in store for 1976

By YITZHAK OKED

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Israel will be forced to take "serious military steps" on her northern and eastern borders in the latter half of 1976, according to the stars as read by Ilan Peker, one of the country's best-known "political astrologers."

Peker — who in December 1972 forecast that 1973 might be Israel's worst year since 1948 — is a 37-year-old lawyer who has admitted that astrology is more than a hobby to him.

He forecasts that the country's present economic and social difficulties will continue in 1976, and in April or May there will be changes in the Government which

will affect the present coalition structure.

He also sees a rise in violence and traffic accidents. Other predictions for 1976:

- U.S. President Gerald Ford will run against Democrat Sargent Shriver in the 1976 U.S. presidential elections. The race will be a close one because both candidates are within "favourable constellations."
- Henry Kissinger will step down as Secretary of State.
- Events in Angola will destroy the détente between the Soviet Union and the U.S.
- Egypt will encounter serious internal difficulties which might force President Anwar Sadat to resign or to hand over a substantial

portion of his authority to someone else.

• Jordan's King Hussein faces serious problems, either because of an invasion of foreign armies into his kingdom or because of the return of the PLO.

• The present crisis in Lebanon will quiet down for a while, but will flare up again to international dimensions.

• Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis will marry again, either by the end of 1976 or early in 1977.

• Prince Charles of Britain will announce his engagement, against the wishes of his family.

• The Shah of Iran will be very sick.

• Worldwide inflation will continue.

Zionist General Council opens five-day meet

Almogi v. Dulzin on Tuesday

By JUDY SIEGEL

Jerusalem Post Reporter

Election of a new chairman of the World Zionist Executive will be the highlight of the Zionist General Council, which opens five days' sessions at Jerusalem's Binyanei Ha'oma Sunday afternoon.

In addition to the vote, which was necessitated by the death of Zionist Executive and Jewish Agency Executive chairman Pinhas Sapir last summer, the Council will discuss a Jewish counterattack against this year's anti-Zionist resolutions and activities in the UN, as well as prepare for the next Zionist Congress at the end of 1976.

On Monday, the 110 voting members of the Council will have the opportunity to approve the one-million-member World Union for Progressive Judaism (Reform Movement) for membership in the World Zionist Organization. They will also decide whether to grant full voting rights and increase the representation of the World Sephardi Federation and the World Organization of Maccabi.

The two candidates vying for the Zionist Executive chairmanship are Haifa Mayor Yosef Almogi and acting Executive chairman Arye Dulzin, who also currently serves as chairman of the Jewish Agency Executive. Since only a member of the Zionist Executive is permitted to run for chairman, Almogi must first be elected to the Executive on Monday (to fill Sapir's seat) before the vote for chairman on Tuesday evening.

The Executive chairman is voted by a simple majority, generally by a show of hands of the 110-member international body (consisting of 32 Labour Zionists, 20 Zionist Confederation, 18 ITR-Mizrachi, 16 General Zionists, 10 Herut-Hatzoar, seven Mapam, four Wizo and three Independent Liberals). A secret ballot or roll-call vote can be requested by 20 voting members. Nearly 50 others, including past members of the Executive, will be present as observers but unable to vote.

Dulzin, Zionist General Council chairman Yitzhak Navon, MK; Jewish Agency Director-General Moshe Rivlin; and Avraham Shenker, head of the WZO Organization and Information Department, held a press conference in Jerusalem yesterday in preparation for the Council meetings.

Navon said that the Council cannot elect a president of the WZO (the possibility of reinstating the office of president — ideally filled by a charismatic figure that unites the Jewish People — has been

mooted recently). Such a step could be taken only by the next Zionist Congress, and not by the Biennial Council.

Dulzin told reporters that he opposes having two separate persons serve as chairman of the World Zionist Executive and chairman of the Agency Executive. But such an anomaly — illegal under current Agency-WZO regulations — would occur if Dulzin were defeated by Almogi for the Zionist post, since a replacement for Sapir as chairman of the Agency Executive could be decided only at the next Agency assembly, now scheduled for next summer. (However, Dulzin could resign from the Agency chairmanship, the Assembly could be moved up, or legal experts could find another solution to the problem.)

The 42 Israeli and 68 Diaspora members of the Council will divide up into five committees which will discuss the next Zionist Congress, policy and information campaigns, immigration and absorption, youth and education, and financing. The possibility of making the WZO comprouler's report public soon after each chapter is prepared may also be discussed.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin will address the Council on opening night, and President Ephraim Katzir will tender a reception for the delegates in honour of the Jewish National Fund's 75th anniversary.

The Zionist General Council is considered the "legislative body" of the World Zionist Organization, and the Executive is the "executive body" that carries out policy and makes day-to-day decisions. The Executive and its chairman are elected by the Council, which is chosen by the Zionist Congress, held on average every four years.

The Agency Assembly is the "legislative body" of the Jewish Agency, and the Executive performs executive functions. The two organizations, which share their headquarters in Jerusalem, share complementary powers and responsibilities, with the Agency specializing in stimulating and aiding allies from abroad and coordinating of fundraising. The World Zionist Organization is the primary Zionist body responsible for education and Jewish activity abroad, with some responsibilities in Israel.

THE FIRST ISSUE of a new quarterly, "The Jerusalem Journal of International Relations," has just been published by the Hebrew University's Institute for International Relations. The journal, with contributions by foreign and Israeli scholars, will strive to reflect the global significance of the Middle East, the University says.

38,000 Soviet olim turn out for poll

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Some 38,000 immigrants, 88 per cent of the 44,000 registered members in the Soviet Immigrants Association voted in their association's elections, which concluded on Tuesday. For many it was their first free election.

The elections began on Monday and continued Tuesday in some 70 locations from the Golan Heights to Yamit in the south. The non-factional poll was held to select over 500 delegates to the association convention opening at Kibbutz Shafayim on January 18. The delegates will choose an executive whose task will be to elect a new association head. The leading contenders are the activists' candidate Grisha Feigin and a yet-unnamed "establishment" opponent.

Some of the association members feel, however, that a heated struggle may ensue and that, if one group defeats the other, this will lead to defections from the association or possibly to a split and the virtual paralysis of the association. They will therefore propose at the January 18 convention that, instead of a single chairman, a presidium or standing committee be elected of representatives of the various points of view.

Grisha Feigin is a Labour Party member but does not enjoy that party's backing nor the blessing of the various Government agencies dealing with Soviet immigration. He is backed by the former Prisoners of Zion, by the Action Committee of Newcomers from the USSR and a good many intellectuals, all of whom call for a louder struggle on behalf of Soviet Jewry, for a clearly formulated policy to encourage immigration and even for initiatives such as global boycotts of Soviet products.

Association circles told The Jerusalem Post that Feigin may be opposed by the present association director general, Daniel Blutz, who will present a platform closer to the "establishment" line and will be ready to support quiet diplomacy if it is judged to be more expedient by the Foreign Ministry on certain

occasions. He too will, however, press for more consultation of new immigrants on policy-making on Soviet Jewry.

Feigin enjoys a good deal of popularity because of his activist past, while Blutz may have more unofficial Labour Party support, if he decides to run. Aside from possible party considerations, there may be alliances determined by place of origin. Thus the 70-odd Georgian representatives may support one of the candidates and vote en bloc, as may be the case with the Latvians, Lithuanians or Lithuanians.

The possibility that leading activist Victor Polsky may run for the office of chairman is not ruled out, but Prof. Alexander Voronel is reported to be uninterested in the post.

Make olim feel at home, Rabin tells teenagers

Jerusalem Post Reporter

Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin asserted on Tuesday that the current period of attack is a test for Israelis, especially the young, who must react by helping new immigrants feel at home.

The Premier was addressing 150 teenagers at the national conference of No'ar LeNo'ar, the volunteer youth group affiliated with Eretz B'yith, in the Jewish Agency's Weizmann Hall in Jerusalem.

Rabin said that Israelis erred in the past by doing only what was demanded of them by the law, and not more than that. One way youth can correct the mistake of their elders is to take part in immigrant absorption, "because Jews want to come here to feel at home," he said.

The youth organization, which includes 5,000 youngsters aged 14 to 18 throughout the country, has dedicated the coming year's activities to "absorbing immigrants with the mark of Zionism." They will join young olim on Tu B'Shvat outings and give them presents on Purim.

Action against pro-Israel Black organization in U.S.

Jerusalem Post Reporter

A Black organization based in San Francisco has filed a \$30m. suit against a Black pro-Israel organization on the grounds that the latter's name gives the impression that all Blacks support Israel.

The organization being sued is BASI (Black Americans to Save Israel). Bayard Rustin, director of BASI, said he was not familiar with the name of the organization that has filed the suit, according to "The Jewish Post and Opinion," a national American Jewish weekly newspaper published in Indianapolis. Many of America's leading Blacks are members of the board of BASI, whose president is a Philip Randolph and whose treasurer is Lionel Hampton.

Rustin disclosed this while addressing the Bnei Zion Fraternal Order at a dinner in New York, at which he was awarded the order's Israel Friendship Citation.

At another meeting, in Philadelphia, Rustin denounced those who railroaded the recent anti-Israel resolutions through the UN. He said these were "people who have launched a determined drive against democracy and human rights the world over... These are the same people who are still buying people in East Africa and selling them as slaves in Saudi Arabia."

He dwelt on the Arab role in the slave trade, and said: "Today there are more than 500,000 slaves in Saudi Arabia. The same people who distorted the meaning of Zionism

are those who are taking men, castrating them and overfeeding them to make them huge eunuchs to service their harems. Long before the Whites enslaved the Blacks, 1,500 years ago, Arabs took the first Black slaves out of Africa. I would be willing to forgive them, except for the fact that they are still taking people out of East Africa as slaves."

Referring again to the charges that Zionism is racist, he said: "I have been arrested 24 times in the U.S. and have been on a chain gang, so I know from personal experience what racism is and what it is not. To call Zionism racism was a setback in the worldwide struggle for freedom, because Zionism is the struggle of a people to live in its land in dignity."

Educational programme for underprivileged

A proposal to make it obligatory for university students to donate two hours a week to educational work with underprivileged youth was made on Tuesday by the leadership of the Students Union at the Hebrew University.

The student leaders told Welfare Minister Zevulun Hammer about the Hebrew University's underprivileged children in Katamon and the Nahlaot quarter. Hammer said he would meet with Education Minister Aharon Yadin on the possibility of extending the plan for two hours' voluntary work to secondary school pupils.

Hotels urged to add meaning to the Sabbath

Jerusalem Post Reporter

The Chief Rabbinate has for the first time asked hotels to provide their Friday-night guests with candles, wine and everything else that adds spiritual meaning to Shabbat.

Rabbi Moshe Salzbarg, national kashrut inspector of enterprises and hotels for the Chief Rabbinate, sent a letter to all hotels, encouraging them to post conspicuous notices of Sabbath services in the neighbourhood, display a large set of candelabra in the lobby and hold an *oney Shabbat* with traditional singers and religious lectures on Friday evenings. He also asked hotel owners to arrange communal Shabbat dinners where the blessings over wine and *halla* are made by all the guests together.

IL5,000 fine for run-down shelters

Anyone who fails to keep a bomb shelter fit for immediate use is subject to a fine of IL5,000, according to Interior Ministry by-laws, which the local authorities have been requested to adopt.

In a memo about the by-laws, Ministry Director-General Haim Kibersky notes that persons who fail to keep up their shelters even after warning or conviction will be fined IL200 per day until they fix them.

The Commander of Hagan (Civilian Defence), Tat-Alut Yitzhak Zeld, said on Tuesday that Hagan officers and those engaged in the "Hagan in Every Home" information campaign have found many shelters filled with trash, and their owners under the mistaken impression that the local authority is responsible for the upkeep of shelters. He said Hagan welcomed the new by-law, and noted that Hagan had recently approved prefabricated shelters for homes built without them.

Rabbi David Peretz new Tiberias Chief Rabbi

TIBERIAS. — Rabbi David Peretz, 40, of the Daled Quarter, was elected on Tuesday to the long-vacant post of Chief Rabbi of Tiberias.

The rabbinic electoral council, consisting of eight synagogue representatives, eight municipality representatives and eight members of the town's religious council, voted for Rabbi Peretz by 23 to one.

Rabbi Peretz, born in Morocco, will serve as sole chief rabbi — no Ashkenazi Chief Rabbi is to be elected, since under the law no chief rabbi is posted for a community which makes up less than a third of the town's population. (Itim)

AMBULANCES WERE handed over by the Variety Club of Israel in Tel Aviv this week to Akim, the Society for the Rehabilitation of the Mentally Handicapped; to Sister Bernice of the Sisters of St. Vincent in Ein Karen; and to Micha, the Society for Deaf Children. The ambulances, all Ford Transit 115 models specially adapted for children, were donated by Variety Clubs in the U.S. and England.

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OPEC terrorists free in Libya

ALGIERS. — Six pro-Palestinian terrorists landed free in Libya in a special plane from Algeria amid reports in foreign newspapers yesterday that Algeria masterminded their kidnapping of 10 oil ministers in Vienna.

The terrorists, who killed three persons when they crashed into the Vienna headquarters of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec) on December 21, never were under arrest in Algeria, authoritative sources said.

Austrian government officials, who yesterday expressed surprise about reports that the five men and a woman had been flown to Tripoli, said an order for their extradition to Vienna to face trial was sent to the Austrian Embassy in Algiers to be given to the Algerian government. But after spending a week in a comfortable villa, the terrorists left in a special aircraft for Tripoli on Tuesday, it was reported.

In Paris, the newspapers "France-Soir" and "Minute" said Algeria with Libyan aid organized the attack because they support the Palestinian groups fighting against any Arab cooperation with Israel. "France-Soir" claimed the Venezuelan Carlos Ramirez, reputed chief of an international terrorist ring, was called to Baghdad about four weeks ago and hired to head the operation. At the secret planning meeting were Carlos, Yigal Haddad, chief of military operations

for the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), and representatives from Algeria and Libya, "France-Soir" said, quoting Israeli secret service officials. Carlos allegedly flew to Tripoli to receive a final briefing on the attack.

Carlos recruited Hans Joachim Klein, a West German wounded in the Vienna raid. West German police disclosed on Tuesday in Wiesbaden that Carlos arrived in Frankfurt in May and gave false identity papers to extremist Wilfried Böse, friend of Klein. The hostages later said Carlos apologized to the Libyan oil minister because he had to kill a Libyan Opec employee.

"France-Soir" said an attempted landing at Tunis was a "camouflage" so as not to implicate Algeria too strongly. The Algerian government has made no statement on the group since their arrival or since their departure on Tuesday night. Authorities ruled out any public declaration on the affair and specifically any formal acknowledgment that the leader of the group was Carlos.

The sources raised the possibility that the group may have left Algeria several days before the news was leaked on Tuesday. This would give them a head start, allowing them to melt away before public attention was focused on their movements. (AP, UPI)



An astrologer in Israel (see page 5) and another in Italy have predicted another marriage for Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis in 1976. Here she smiles for photographers on Tuesday at a Utah ski resort. (AP radiophoto)

Attack by Gandhi stuns U.S.

Portugal, Iraq condemn (Israeli) racism

LISBON. — Portugal joined Iraq yesterday in condemning Israel as a racist regime. The slam at Israel was included in a joint communiqué distributed at the end of a visit by Portuguese Foreign Minister Ernesto Melo Antunes. Portugal subscribed to a communiqué that "condemned regimes based on racism and apartheid against the will of the international community."

In case there was any doubt Israel was intended, "the two sides reiterated the position taken by both

countries voting in favour of a resolution adopted at the UN General Assembly that condemned Zionism as a form of racism and racial discrimination."

Israel was not mentioned by name. Antunes' visit to Iraq, his first to the Arab world, was part of a diplomatic offensive toward developing countries. It was also intended to test the ground for possible cheaper oil imports. The most Arab nations got was a promise by Iraq to start to start negotiations on a long-term economic agreement.

NEW DELHI. — Prime Minister Indira Gandhi yesterday accused the U.S. of carrying out a "policy of destabilization" effort in India, and vowed to "weed out" U.S. agents.

In the third day of an escalating attack on the U.S., Gandhi said India is facing "the greatest danger of outside interference" — and left no doubt she meant from America.

U.S. diplomats said they were stunned by Gandhi's stinging criticisms the past three days and expressed concern that her remarks — which included a slap at Secretary of State Henry Kissinger — could only jeopardize Indo-American relations.

"We had expected a certain amount of rhetoric at the party convention against the U.S.," one American diplomat said. "A certain amount has often been said in the past for domestic political purposes. But these comments by Mrs. Gandhi and some of her senior aides go way beyond what we anticipated."

Yesterday the U.S. Government issued a formal protest at Gandhi's remarks. (AP)

Stabbed women for spite



Workers in Philadelphia lower the Liberty Bell (with its rim already encased in cement) onto a special cart to take it to a visitors pavilion for celebrations of the U.S. bicentennial year in 1976. (AP radiophoto)

Minor can't collect on winning ticket

WETHERSFIELD, Connecticut. — A teen-ager with a \$10,000 winning lottery ticket was told for the second time on Tuesday that he cannot collect the money because he is a minor. The Connecticut Gaming Commission had offered a one-dollar refund to Barry Brunelle, 17, for the

winning "Instant lottery" ticket. But Brunelle refused the offer, saying the commission apparently needed the dollar more than he did. Brunelle's family said the store where the ticket was bought and the ticket itself gave no indication that minors were not allowed to purchase lottery tickets. (AP)

Let The Israel Government Withdraw Its Decision To Boycott The Security Council Debate

The Committee for a Just Peace between Israel and the Arab Countries regards the debate at the UN Security Council, with the participation of the PLO, as an effort to prepare the path for a quick convocation of the Geneva Conference and as likely to promote the success of its work.

The decision of the Israel Government not to take part in the Security Council debate starting January 12, 1976, concerning the crisis in our region, because the PLO is invited, is wrong and damaging, and should be vigorously protested by all peace-loving people in Israel.

By this, the Israel Government demonstrates once again that it does not recognize the Palestinian Arab people, its right to self-determination and to independent national life and does not want it to take part in the process for the establishment of peace in our region. By this, the Israel Government is obstructing the way to progress towards peace. Even the most loyal friends of the Israel Government in the USA have expressed their dissatisfaction with this stubborn position, still further isolating Israel.

The latest resolutions of the UN General Assembly on the Palestinian question prove once more that the entire world — all its communities — unitedly rejects the unjust position of the Israel Government towards the Palestinian Arab people. The majority of the latest appearances by speakers of the PLO — recognized as the legitimate representative of the Palestinian Arab people — and the official joint statement following the visit of a PLO delegation to the Soviet Union a month ago, clearly testify that the PLO is willing to be a partner in an arrangement for a just peace that will also respect the independence and sovereignty of the State of Israel, if Israel withdraws from the territories occupied in the June 1967 war and recognizes the right of the Palestinians to create an independent and sovereign state in the territories evacuated by Israel.

On the other hand, the declaration given to the American weekly "Newsweek" by the Prime Minister that we will never conduct negotiations with the Palestinians and will not recognize any Palestinian factor, is far from paving the road to peaceful co-existence with the neighbouring people, and acts against the interests of Israel.

* We call on all peace-loving people in Israel to demand that the Israel Government not boycott the coming debate at the Security Council on the crisis in the Middle East.

* We call on the Israel Government to do everything possible for the rapid reconvening of the Geneva Conference, with the participation of all the sides involved, including the representatives of the Palestinian Arab people.

Mutual recognition of the rights of the two peoples, the Israeli people and the Palestinian Arab people — their authorized representatives sitting together — this is the way towards peace and security for the peoples of the region.

Any kind of support for this advertisement can be sent to:

The Committee for a Just Peace between Israel and the Arab Countries, P.O.B. 4964, Tel Aviv.

Argentina — a poor prognosis

By JAMES NEILSON

THE ARGENTINE armed forces shouldered their way into centre stage again during a five-day Air Force rebellion against the ramshackle Government of Isabel Peron. The rebellion flared out in the early hours of December 22 when the rebel leader, Brigadier Jesus Orlando Capellini, realised that neither the Army nor the Navy would come to his aid. Many Argentines fear, however, that the aborted uprising could be a prelude to a full military takeover in the not too distant future.

The Government survived the uprising intact only because the Army chief, General Jorge Videla, persuaded his colleagues that the time was not ripe for another military coup. In a message to garrisons throughout the country, however, he warned that the "responsible institutions" had better solve the country's grave political problems very soon.

While most political parties deplored the coup, they made it clear that a major step towards the sort of solution demanded by the Army chief would be Peron's resignation. She, however, reiterated her determination to stay in power.

Throughout the crisis the negotiations were completely in the hands of the armed forces, with the Government a helpless spectator. On several occasions the Government officially announced that the uprising was over, only for the rebels to issue an indignant denial. After broadcasting aggressive Peronist communiqués for a day the official bulletins suddenly stopped, on orders from the armed forces. As well as increasing demands for a "patriotic resignation" by Peron, the uprising demonstrated the utter lack of support the Government enjoys in the country at large. Most Argentines observed the drama with

little interest. There were hardly any pro-Government demonstrations at all. Even the trade unions, whose support for the Government is the officially total, waited five days before calling a strike, only to scrap it because the rebellion was over.

The increasingly distraught Peron has decided to work a four-day week. She needs the long weekends, according to her Press secretary, because she is a statesman and statesmen need time to meditate. But she rarely turns up at the Presidential palace anyway, preferring to walk round and round the gardens of her official residence.

Peronism returned to power in 1973 on a tidal wave of hope. Many intelligent Argentines, including some who heartily disliked General Juan Peron, believed that he and he alone could unite the nation and lead it to prosperity at home and grandeur abroad. All these hopes have long since turned sour, and there is no sign at all of the nightmare ending.

One of Juan Peron's greatest strengths was the imprecise, de-

liberately misty nature of his doctrine. He could be all things to all men. There was a place in his movement for Marxist and Fascist, moderate socialist and enthusiast for the market economy. And, in 1973, they all flocked to his banner, providing enough voters to enable him to sweep all before him at election time.

This shrewd pre-election gambit, however, has meant nothing but misery for his frail widow. Now that Juan has gone any group can claim to represent the true faith and the Peronist movement is split between Right and Left, democrat and authoritarian, nationalist and believer in the occult.

The Government itself, and its most powerful figure, Interior Minister Angel Robledo, is to the Right of the Peronist movement. This, in practical terms, has meant that they have acquiesced to a strong military push against Marxist and left-wing Peronist guerrillas, and have favoured the well-entrenched leaders of the trade unions against a new generation of shop-floor

leaders of markedly left-wing tendencies. The trade union chiefs, who have more in common with Jimmy Hoffa of the American Teamsters than with Jack Jones of the British transport workers, provide the Government with a praetorian guard of gunmen.

But whatever its ideological preferences, the Government is expending all its efforts in staying in office. It is besieged on every front by crises. It is widely assumed to be rotten with corruption, and enough scandals have come to light to make even the most exotic accusations seem reasonable.

These goings-on have provided plenty of material for gossip and have undermined the Government's moral authority, but its most dangerous failure has been economic. The Argentine economy, which at the start of General Peron's administration appeared to be about to haul itself out of decades of stagnation and begin a period of steady growth, is once again flat on its back, its strength sapped by what could be the worst crisis in its history.

Inflation is currently beyond computation. It is somewhere between 250 and 500 per cent a year, but available statistics are months behind the reality. Prices double overnight with dashed shoppers hardly batting an eyelid.

The armed forces are at present fully occupied by the war against left-wing guerrillas in the mountains of Tucuman province, and the slowly accelerating campaign against the guerrillas in the great industrial cities. Once that job is done they will, perhaps, turn their attention to politics again, but until then the grotesquely incompetent Government of Isabel Peron will be free to continue its riotous and ruinous course. (OFNS)

Peron cleared of theft

BUEENOS AIRES. — An investigating judge has cleared President Isabel Peron of a charge that she tried to steal \$700,000 from charity funds.

But a congressional investigation into the charge was expected to continue, and leaders of the armed forces were reported keeping up pressure on Peron to resign or take a long leave of absence.

There was more terrorism on Tuesday, raising the 1975 death toll to 898. Bomb blasts in a crowded theatre in central Buenos Aires and at the headquarters of the army command killed one person and in-

jured nine others. Right-wing terrorists kidnapped and killed three leftists in Buenos Aires suburbs.

Federal Judge Alfredo Nocetti Pasolino, who is investigating charges of corruption in Peron's regime, announced that she wasn't at fault when she signed a cheque in July transferring the equivalent of \$700,000 from the funds of a public charity to the estate of her late husband, President Juan Peron.

The cheque was recalled when it came to light, and the judge accepted the government's explanation that Peron signed it by mistake. (AP)

Morocco, Mauritania confer on Algerian arms build-up

RABAT, Morocco. — Mauritania President Moktar Ould Daddah and Moroccan King Hassan II met yesterday to consider Algeria's growing military preparations and its opposition to their two countries' partition of former Spanish Sahara.

Ould Daddah and Hassan held the previously unannounced meeting two days after Algerian President Houari Boumedienne and Libyan chief of state Muammar Gaddafi concluded a virtual military pact at a conference at Hassi Messaoud, southern Algeria.

The meeting between Ould Daddah and Hassan came against the background of a steady worsening of relations between Morocco and Algeria, which have both massed their forces at their frontiers.

Both nations fought a brief but bloody border conflict in 1963.

The Moroccan forces indicted a set of severe setbacks on the Algerians, then commanded by Boumedienne.

Ould Daddah flew in the company of Foreign Minister Hamdi Ould

Moukmas and other aides. Hassan was flanked by his key ministers and armed forces commanders.

The Polisario Front, the Algerian-supported independence movement in the Sahara, meanwhile claimed its forces were locked in a series of clashes with Moroccan and Mauritanian forces.

"El-Moudjahid" quoting the Polisario command, said the guerrillas have shot down a military aircraft in south Sahara and captured its French pilot. French authorities said no French aircraft was missing.

Diplomatic relations between Algeria and Rabat appeared to have been virtually suspended. The two countries pulled out their ambassadors last week. The brass plaque on the Algerian Embassy here was removed yesterday without explanation.

The formation of a Polisario government, might come before the planned conference of the Organization of African Unity on January 10, in Addis Ababa, diplomatic sources said. (UPI)

Ten sentenced to death for Iranian terror killings

TEHERAN. — Ten people, described as Marxist guerrillas — one of them a woman — have been sentenced to death by firing squad on charges of murdering three U.S. officers serving in Iran and five Iranians, an official statement said yesterday.

An 11th guerrilla, a woman, was sentenced to 15 years solitary confinement for her active role in the guerrillas' organization.

The army tribunal's verdicts, pronounced on Tuesday night after a 10-day trial and released yesterday, also found the group guilty of plotting against the government, illegal possession of arms, forming an armed band, forgery and sabotage.

Two of the Americans died when

gunmen ambushed their car in a Tehran street last May. The third officer was killed by a gunman in Teheran in June 1975. A communist guerrilla gang alleged to have masterminded his murder was reported to have been shot dead in a battle with police a month later.

All three were working in Iran among about 1,000 American servicemen providing technical assistance to the Iranian armed forces.

Two of the Iranians who the Marxists were convicted of murdering were police chief, Brigadier General Reza Zandipour — killed in March — and an employee of the U.S. Embassy, Hassan Hosman — shot in July. (Reuter)

S. Koreans jailed as Maoists

SEOUL. — Two South Korean newspapermen and a lecturer were jailed yesterday after being found guilty of plotting a Maoist revolution.

Lee Pu-Yong, leader of a press freedom campaign early this year at the "Dong-A Ilbo," South Korea's largest daily was jailed for eight years. Sung Yoo-Bo, a fellow reporter on the paper, and Chung Jong-Bong, a lecturer at a private academic institute, received four years each.

The defendants said they met casually about ten times in 1973 and 1974 and talked about different social ideologies — Capitalism, Socialism and Communism — along

with Chinese leader Mao Tse-tung's revolutionary ideas. But they denied plotting a Maoist revolution.

The conviction was one of several recent trials against opponents of the Chung-Hi Park regime, including opposition leader Kim Dae-Jung, dissident poet Kim Chi-Ha, civil rights lawyer Hahn Seung-Hun, four prominent clergymen and more than 50 students.

Those who have been convicted and sentenced to prison for up to ten years are among at least 134 persons arrested under an emergency decree issued by Park last May 13 banning anti-government activities. (Reuter)

105 said dead in Philippine storms

MANILA. — The death toll from two storms which hit Southern Luzon and Palawan Island rose to 105, while scores were reported missing, mostly in sea tragedies, the newspaper "Evening Post" reported yesterday.

There was no official government confirmation of the report.

The Philippine National Red Cross reported 37 dead, 33 missing and two injured in the Bicol region on the southeastern tip of Luzon, hit by floods and landslides triggered by

five days of heavy rains.

The government Philippines News Agency said 65,000 hectares of rice and corn lands were flooded in the Bicol area. There was no immediate estimate of damage to public and private property.

Continuous rains last week washed out bridges and destroyed the tracks of the Philippine National Railways in the Bicol area. More than 1,400 holiday travellers were stranded during the Christmas holidays as a result of the bad weather.

Quake damage in Turkey and Greece

ANKARA. — Three people were killed and about 100 were injured on Tuesday night when medium earth tremors struck parts of south-eastern Turkey already damaged by a major quake last September, the state-owned Turkish radio reported yesterday.

About 400 houses were damaged in the Hazro and Hani areas, near the devastated town of Lice where 2,500 people died in last September's disaster.

Hundreds of residents rushed from their homes in panic as the quake struck. Many spent the night out in the cold for fear of returning to their battered homes, the radio said.

Western Greece was jolted yesterday by a quake causing heavy damage to towns and villages. A four-year-old girl died when she was hit by falling debris at the village of Kastaldi, north of Patras. (AP, Reuter)

'U.S. of Europe' — takeoff delayed

By CARL HARTMAN

BRUSSELS. — The European Common Market has all it needs at the start of the New Year to begin the "takeoff" toward a "United States of Europe" — everything but the enthusiasm to get off the ground.

In mid-1975 Britain voted heavily to remain a member of the Common Market, thus assuring that Denmark and Ireland would also stay in. Greece already has knocked at the door and Spain is expected soon. There was no danger of any break-up among the original six members: France, West Germany, Italy, Belgium, Holland and Luxembourg.

Close ties exist between the Common Market and other non-Communist countries on the continent: Sweden, Norway, Switzerland and Austria.

Early in the new year the member countries will begin discussing a report they ordered from Premier Leo Tindemans of Belgium on what they should do to create a closer "European union."

Considerable emphasis is expected to be put on holding the first election for the European Parliament, probably in 1978.

The member countries have urgent causes to get closer together, both on the economic issues that have preoccupied them since they joined and on general questions of home and foreign policy. Recovery from the current slump, though widely predicted, is still doubtful. Unemployment is at the highest level since World War II and expected to rise before it goes down.

Prices are still going up fast. The member countries would like to assert their ideas for assuring supplies of oil and other raw materials, ideas that often differ from those of the U.S. Government — but they have trouble getting together on just what they do want.

The big problem: How to assert the interests that the West European countries have in common. They have serious differences with both the U.S. and the Soviet Union about Africa, arms sales, the Middle East, and curbing nuclear and other weapons. But they also have differences with one another.

So far the member governments have shown no willingness to make decisions on a supranational basis. Yet they know that individually they count for comparatively little

in world affairs, while jointly they would have a good deal of weight.

Public opinion has been moving toward greater unity, at least according to the Common Market's own polling. In October and November of 1975, an average of 43 per cent of those queried were in favour of speeding up unification. That figure compared with 35 per cent two years earlier. The percentage rose in each of the nine member countries except West Germany, where it was still well above the average at 47 per cent.

Leaders on a European scale have not appeared above the horizon, though many figures are mentioned as likely candidates: former chancellor Willy Brandt of West Germany and former Prime Minister Edward Heath of Britain among others.

The Common Market's chief executive is still the 13-man European Commission headed by Francois-Xavier Ortoli, a hard-working and capable veteran of the French civil service with no political appeal at all.

On past form the real authorities of the Common Market will spend most of their time together on issues that do not strike the imagination of the European man in the street. These leaders are ministers from national cabinets, who meet as the Council of the European Communities (CEC). They will not be talking, at least for public consumption, about the future of the Arab-Israeli conflict, the growth of the Soviet Navy or the huge American trade surplus.

For the most part they deal with what are literally bread-and-butter issues. Nearly three quarters of the Common Market's joint spending is on agriculture. The early part of the year traditionally is devoted to much pulling and hauling over the support price for wheat, dairy products and other commodities.

This debate does have a bearing on a major problem: What to do about the immense food surpluses piling up in Western Europe — milk powder, beef and wine, among others — while retail prices keep rising and many people elsewhere go hungry.

There will be much talk about unemployment among Common Market leaders, but little chance for a concerted attack on the problem. (AP)

Swedish crooks go home for Christmas

UMEAA, Sweden. — The prison warden in this north Swedish city gave all his prisoners Christmas leave this year — and all 16 have returned voluntarily, he reported on Monday.

The warden, 38-year-old Gunnar Engstrom, made the decision to open the jail doors on his own, without knowledge or advice from the prison board. Engstrom, Sweden's youngest regional-prison rector, said yesterday: "The environment in prison is depressing for

the inmates, especially in a 19th-century institution like this one and during holidays like Christmas."

"I had personal talks with the inmates first and consulted the guards for their okay," he said. The 16 inmates are mainly serving sentences for burglaries. There are no homicide or assault-and-battery cases.

Engstrom indicated the inmates can look forward to Easter leave too. (AP)

هكزامن الأمل

Ford calls in FBI on La Guardia

NEW YORK — President Gerald Ford, pledging to stamp out terrorism, ordered 300 FBI agents to investigate the La Guardia Airport bomb blast that killed 11 people and injured about 75.

His order came after Washington talks on Tuesday night with heads of the Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, Justice Department and the FBI. The FBI agents will aid other federal and New York officials in the probe.

Transportation Secretary William Coleman said as the White House meeting began that particular attention would have to be paid to security in the area of baggage lockers. The La Guardia bomb was believed to have been hidden inside a coin-operated locker near a baggage pickup area.

California bank bombed

BERKELEY, California. — A small bomb exploded on Tuesday night in a six-story building that houses a branch office of the Bank of America. The blast shattered windows and caused other minor damage but no injuries.

Police said there was no warning prior to the explosion and no one claimed responsibility. Officers said they presumed the target was the bank, America's biggest.

He said 45 bomb threats had been received across the nation after the New York explosion. Ford directed him to set up a special task force to investigate the bombing and make recommendations to prevent a repetition. The panel is expected to issue its report within two weeks.

La Guardia Airport was open to traffic again yesterday amid tightened security, more than 24 hours after the planted bomb explosion. The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey closed indefinitely all parcel lockers to the public at La Guardia, nearby Kennedy International Airport and Newark International Airport in New Jersey.

Ford had earlier told reporters that the U.S. would take all necessary steps to stamp out such terrorist acts.

"We must do something in the area of terrorist control. We are going to maximize our efforts," he told reporters at Grand Junction, Colorado, before returning to Washington after a week's skiing holiday.

Tight, but not fool-proof, airport security

ROME — Europe's major gateway airports have strong security measures as a shield against terrorists and bombs, and the Rome and Frankfurt airports adopted even stricter security after Monday's bombing in New York. But none is believed to be fool-proof.

"There is little you can do to protect the public effectively against a determined bomber," acknowledged an official of the Brussels airport, where trained dogs sniff luggage and lockers. It is also guarded by 200 gendarmes and so many plainclothesmen that, in confusion, they check each other's identity.

An Associated Press survey of its European bureaus shows that Britain has banned all luggage lockers and even attended counters for checking luggage because of fear of hidden explosives. Rome, Belgrade, Stockholm, Madrid and Oslo do not offer coin-operated

lockers where bombs could be left without detection.

Police believe the bomb that killed at least 11 persons in La Guardia Airport on Monday night had been planted in a metal baggage locker.

European officials say security is often tightened after a major assault on one airport for fear that the action may be the work of a network of international terrorists.

Extra guards are also posted in times of arrivals and departures of foreign statesmen, particularly Arabs and Israelis. El Al planes and other carriers serving Israel are also subject to more scrutiny than planes destined for other places.

Most of Europe's international airports — including Moscow's — are equipped with electronic metal sensing devices geared to reveal metal contents in handbags or in a passenger's possession.

Since heavier luggage checked in through the counter is harder to control, Greek and Yugoslav officials have passengers identify their suitcases on the tarmac to prevent unclaimed material getting aboard.

A Dutch Aviation Ministry spokesman said luggage not hand carried is also scanned by electronic devices.

Except for Athens and Rome, none of Europe's major airports has been the prey ground for major terrorist bombs causing fatalities. Some, however, have been the scene of terrorist attacks connected with hijackings.

In the most serious — in December 1973 — five Palestinians machinegunned their way into the Leonardo Da Vinci Airport in Fiumicino, near Rome, firebombed a Pan American jetliner and hijacked another plane. Thirty-two people died.



BRITISH SURGEON Sheila Cassidy, 27, answers a question during a press conference in London on Tuesday, just after her arrival from Santiago. (AP wirephoto)

Strong British protests to Chile over alleged torture of doctor

LONDON — British Foreign Secretary James Callaghan yesterday strongly protested to the Chilean government over the imprisonment and torture of Dr. Sheila Cassidy by Chilean police.

"No British Government can accept such uncivilised, brutal treatment of a British subject at the hands of a foreign government," Callaghan said. The British Government said it was recalling its ambassador to Santiago and submitting the case to the UN Human Rights Commission.

Denying Dr. Cassidy's allegations, Chile's London ambassador, Rear Admiral Kaare Olsen said she had been well-treated and the British Embassy in Santiago had earlier

expressed appreciation for this. But Callaghan said Britain had deliberately refrained from publishing the facts because "we feared that the Chilean security authorities might trump up more serious charges against Dr. Cassidy to justify this brutal treatment."

Telling her story to newsmen on Tuesday night, Cassidy, who denies any political motivations and said she now wants to become a nun, said she had treated an important leftist fugitive in October after being telephoned by a priest she knew.

She forgot about the incident, and then on November 1 was arrested while visiting a sick nun in a house on the outskirts of Santiago.

Indian miner charges corruption

NEW DELHI — A top official of India's mine workers' union charged yesterday that some \$300,000 earmarked for improvements at the government mine which collapsed on Saturday was in part "misappropriated by corrupt officers and contractors."

The allegation came as the Soviet Union sent 15 advisers and 30 tons of pumping equipment to help drain off the 100 million gallons of water still burying 372 miners at the Chasnai coal mine, one of the major mining complexes in the coal-rich Northeast. The government has given up all hope of finding survivors.

A Polish team was also en route to India, a spokesman said. Kalyan Roy, General Secretary of the Indian Mineworkers' Federation, made the charge of misappropriation of funds in a long article published yesterday in the pro-Soviet daily, "The Patriot."

"Neither this disaster nor the sharp rise in accidents and deaths in coal mines in the last one year should come as a surprise to anyone who is connected with the coal industry," wrote Roy, a member of Parliament from the Communist Party, which usually supports the government.

"In the frenzied drive for more production of coal, safety and conservation have been the worst casualties," he wrote.

Soviet scientist, in hospital, gets exit permit

MOSCOW — Exit permits have been signed by Soviet authorities for dissident mathematician Leonid Plyushch and his family, his wife, Tatyana, said yesterday. He and his family must leave the country by January 10, she said.

Mrs. Plyushch told newsmen, however, that her husband had still not been released from a psychiatric hospital in Dnepropetrovsk where he has been held for more than two years.

She said she did not know whether the authorities would let him come home first or just take him to the train when he and his family leaves.

Plyushch, 43, was arrested in 1972 on charges of anti-Soviet agitation. Appeals for his release have been frequently issued by international groups of mathematicians and recently there was a demonstration in Paris during a World Mathematics Congress.

Charged with beating IRA prisoners

BIRMINGHAM — Fourteen prison officers have been charged with beating six IRA prisoners after they were arrested for the bloodiest terror bombing in English history.

The officers were suspended with half pay on Tuesday pending court appearance on February 23. British press reports said five of them are members of the hospital staff of Birmingham's Winson Green jail.

The beatings allegedly took place November 25, 1974, four days after 21 persons died and some 120 were injured in the bombing at two crowded pubs here.

When the prisoners went on trial for the bombings last summer, there was testimony that they had

been punched and kicked, and that one had lost four teeth. All were sentenced to life in prison.

Newspapers quoted prisoners at Winson Green as saying the arrested men had been forced to run a gauntlet of prison staff when they arrived at the jail, that they were kicked and punched, thrown down stone stairways and forced to stand at attention for 12 hours.

One report quoted a prison official as saying the atmosphere had been "explosive" because some officers had been called out to help at local hospitals the night of the bombings.

The charges followed a five-month investigation.

SOCCER PREVIEW

JACK LEON

Haifa Hapoel look firm at the top

TEL AVIV — League football shares the soccer limelight with the seven-nation International Youth Tournament these days, but as usual the league game reigns supreme on Saturday.

This season — with one-third of the 1975-76 campaign completed — the National League competition is proving particularly interesting, with the picture changing weekly both at the top and bottom of the table in a fascinating way.

New leaders Haifa Hapoel visit Netanya Maccabi in the weekend's 12th series of games, and the contrast between the two teams could hardly be greater. Under the inspiring leadership of veteran Captain Yitzhak Engelder, the Haifaites have not been defeated since back in mid-November, picking up 10 points from their last six outings in their steady climb up the table. The seashore, on the other hand, are going through a lean period, and their mid-week loss to Be'er Yehuda leaves them in 12th place, with only four more points than bottom team Ramat Amidar Maccabi. All signs point to the guests pulling off another victory, but Netanya might just manage a draw.

Lying second to Haifa Hapoel are Jerusalem Hapoel, whose second place as this season's league leaders lasted just three days last week. The Jerusalemites have an intriguing

home fixture against Tel Aviv Maccabi, full of confidence after their sparkling 3-1 victory over Tel Aviv Betar last weekend. But, with ground advantage, the hosts should be good enough for a point. It is still not known whether Jerusalem's veteran goalkeeper Haim Levine will be back in action, following the head injury he sustained in the game against Be'er Yehuda on December 23, when he chalked up a record 400th league appearance. (By what must surely have been a chance in a million, Kfar Saba's custodian Yair Nosovsky reached a similar landmark only four days later, when he gave a great display between the posts against Haifa Hapoel.)

Be'er Sheva Hapoel, now lying third after recently holding the top spot for about a month, play Be'er Yehuda in Hashkva Quarter — where the Tel Avivians have just returned after being "banished" for most of the season by the Football Association's disciplinary committee. Though the southerners have only gained two points from their last four matches, they might well return to their winning ways on Saturday, with a tie an alternative. Betar's Tel Aviv and Jerusalem clubs (the latter in 11th place) meet at Bloomfield, and the National League's two Betar clubs could well share the points here.

The premier division's two most improved sides, Petah Tikva Maccabi and Tel Aviv Shimshon could well both continue their impressive progress at the expense of Kfar Saba Hapoel and Ramat Gan Hakoah, though Shimshon's task away from home is not an easy one. Petah Tikva Hapoel may achieve their third straight win against hosts Haifa Maccabi.

The two bottom clubs, Tel Aviv Hapoel and Ramat Amidar Maccabi face each other at Bloomfield. By coincidence, the Tel Aviv side was in a similarly unfamiliar-looking lowly position just one year ago, but at home they should manage to defeat the gallant little Ramat Gan club — even though they have lately improved their position considerably with three successive draws.

Sportoto results from last Saturday's fixtures were dominated by the record prize money of IL2,288,000 won by Calilee villager Abu Nader. Sportoto Guide:

Netanya Maccabi v Haifa Hapoel 2
Petah Tikva Mac. v Kfar Saba Hap. 1
Hadera Hapoel v Haifa Maccabi 1
Tel Aviv Hap. v Ramat Amidar Mac. 1
Tel Aviv Betar v Jerusalem Betar 1
Jerusalem Hapoel v Tel Aviv Maccabi 1
Ramat Gan Hakoah v T-A Shimshon 2
Be'er Yehuda v Be'er Sheva Hapoel 2
Haifa Maccabi v Petah Tikva Hapoel 1
Beit Shimon Hap. v Bat Yam Hapoel 1
Be'er Yusef Hap. v Nhsarayim Mac. 1
Hershey Maccabi v Hadera Maccabi 1
Acr Hapoel v Netanya Betar 1

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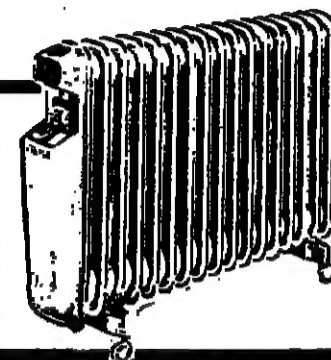
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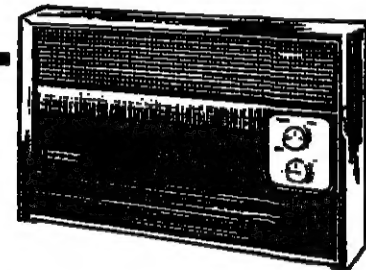
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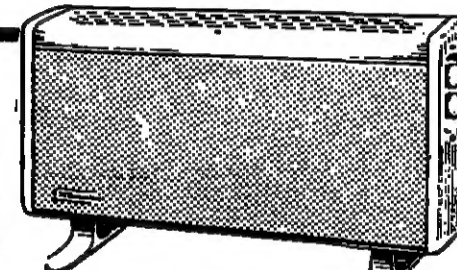


OIL-FILLED COLUMN PORTABLE RADIATOR

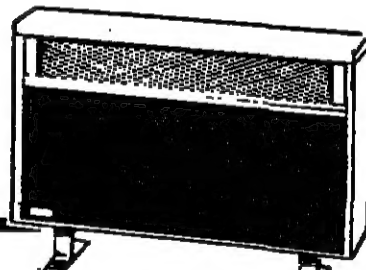
CONVECTOR, MODEL WFC 3 (WITH TURBO-FAN)



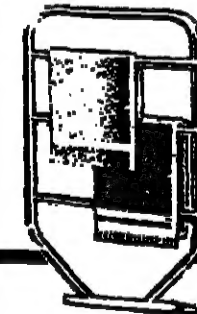
PORTABLE CONVECTOR MODEL LCH 30



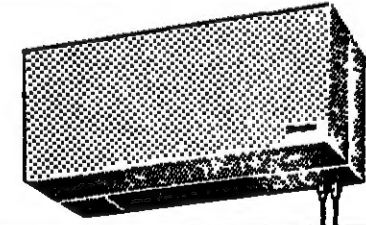
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BUSINESS & FINANCE

TEL AVIV STOCKS:

Quiet New Year's Eve

Jerusalem Post Reporter
TEL AVIV.—On the eve of the New Year the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange was quiet yesterday, with small turn-over. Financial circles limited their predictions to one word: "uncertainty" among investors and traders. Index-linked bonds, those with a 10-year redemption date and those in the 6.5 per cent series, remained for the most part unchanged. Options on the other hand rose 4 to 6 points. This follows the decline among optionals over the past few days.

The turnover in bonds came to 121.6m.

The Natsid dollar remained at 127.74.

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How not to settle Yamit

By YITZHAK YEDIDIA

EVER SINCE my wife and I took our first trip to Pithul Rafiah, we have been in love with Yamit. What a wonderful place to build a home, we decided, only a few minutes walk to the sea through a palm-lined lane.

The other day, we saw a Housing Ministry advertisement describing 185 apartments and 100 units in a "Build your own home" scheme in Yamit and I caught something on the radio about registration closing on Sunday; it was then Wednesday.

The next morning, I arrived at the Housing Ministry in Jerusalem. No. 23 Hefel Street is a big building. A helpful clerk told me: "You want Edna G. She's on the 18th floor."

Edna was not in but a girl sitting in her office was helpful. "Build your own home? I'm not sure, but try either 'Rural Building' at 7 Hillel, or the Jerusalem District office in Rehov Ben-Yehuda."

I decided to try 7 Hillel first. I challenge veteran Jerusalemites to find the place, though. The building is set back from the street; only the fact that Nos. 5 and 9 existed encouraged me to keep on looking.

IF ANYONE thinks the government ministries do not practice austerity, I advise them to see the Housing Ministry office at 7 Hillel. The sign downstairs reads "Main Office." The walk

up to the third-floor apartment

was depressing. Incidentally, there was no hint that the "Rural Housing" division was to be found there.

The girl inside told me to turn to Shikun U'Shuach, on Ben-Hillel, first floor, which I promptly did.

By now it was 9.45 and I was hazy with a headache and the tea-break. Sure enough, I heard noisy splashing as I waited. It seems that the heating element in the electric kettle had burned out and someone upstairs was impatient.

Two people entered with heating elements strung over their shoulders and electric kettles in their hands.

I outbought a girl emerging from the kitchen and she promptly gave me all the forms for an apartment in Yamit. In less than 30 seconds I was being instructed on how to pay IL5,000 to the bank.

"But I'm interested in more information about building a home, not purchasing a flat."

"To be honest," she said, "I only give out these forms as a service. All the information is available at the Southern District in Beersheba."

I THANKED HER and decided to turn to the Jerusalem District Office on Ben-Yehuda. The sign downstairs reads "Main Office." The walk

I ignored him and tried a man at

a desk.

"Look, pal, I've been to six offices of the Housing Ministry within an hour."

"You may reach ten before you get what you want," he said with a smile. "What do you want to know?"

I sang my refrain. "You know, you don't want the Housing Ministry at all. You need the Labour Ministry, the placement unit. They're open on Tuesdays, at the Kirya."

I thanked him and found my way to the District Manager's office upstairs. His secretary was very busy, holding two phones to her ears while carrying on a conversation in the room.

"Could you give me a final answer?" I pleaded. She immediately made a call and smiled: "Final answer: Get hold of Rafi L. at the Kirya in Tel Aviv. He's in charge of 'Rural Housing'."

A half hour of constant dialling got me through to his office. A woman who seemed sure of what she was saying told me: "The 'Build your own home' programme doesn't exist yet for Yamit. It's on the cards at all, it will take a year or two."

NOW I KNEW I had only one more call to make.

"Hello, Gush Emunim? Listen, could I interest you people in opening a southern front?"

61 years of foreign control end today
Venezuela takes over its oil industry

By NIGEL CUMBERBATCH

CARACAS, Venezuela.

SIXTY-ONE YEARS of foreign control over Venezuela's huge oil industry comes to an end today, but international petroleum firms, most of them American, will continue to play a vital role in the country's fuel picture.

Formal state takeover of the industry will take effect today, on New Year's Day. The measure will affect the subsidiaries of more than 80 private, mostly foreign, oil firms including Exxon, Shell, Gulf, Mobil, Sun and Texaco. The companies

handed over their concessions, covering approximately 5.4 million acres of land, and properties to the Venezuelan State yesterday in return for little more than \$7b. (almost IL50b.) in compensation.

President Carlos Andres Perez has appointed retired General Rafael Alfonso Rivas as head of Petroleos de Venezuela (Petroven), a new State parent company which will supervise and control the nationalized industry. Government officials

and Rivas have been negotiating special contracts with the international companies regarding the sale of Venezuelan oil abroad and the supply of sophisticated technology necessary to maintain a smooth running industry.

Operation of the nationalized industry will be handled by 14 new State companies, under the administrative arm of Petroven. The Government plans to retain the same operational and income tax structure in the State-owned industry as under private ownership.

Apart from the taxes the state operators will pay to the State, these companies will be required to hand over approximately 10 per cent of their monthly net earnings to Petroven.

On the question of marketing, most of the country's production next year will be sold to foreign oil firms—whose subsidiaries will have been nationalized to supply Venezuela's traditional consumers, the United States and Canada. Next year's production is estimated at 2.3 million barrels of oil a day.

This represents a decrease in the country's oil production, which declined from an average 3,067,573 barrels a day in 1974 to some 2.3 million barrels a day through December 12 this year. Government officials forecast that daily output could fall as low as 1.5 million barrels by 1977, resulting from the Government's conservation policy and reduced demand for the product on the international market.

The Government, however, has expressed optimism that the production decline will not hurt the country's economy provided the price of oil, now averaging \$10.46 dollars a barrel, does not deteriorate.

Oil is the backbone of the nation's economy, accounting for nearly 80 per cent of fiscal revenues and more than 90 per cent of foreign exchange. Venezuela is the world's third largest oil exporter after Saudi Arabia and Iran. It also ranks as the world's fifth largest oil producer. It is a founding member of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec).

(AP)

Charter flights
a must—Eban

By AARON SITENBERG

Jerusalem Post Reporter

Two Members of Knesset back

from the Parliament of Europe

meeting in Strasbourg warned last

month that tourism to Israel will

remain in a slump unless the Govern-

ment reverses its ban on charter

flights. In a press conference MKs

David Koren and Abba Eban said

they raised the possibility of large-

scale tourism to Israel from the

Common Market countries with

other delegates to the conference.

The response, they said, was that

Israel must first rescind its prohibi-

tion on charter flights. After that,

mass tourism could be expected

from all Market nations.

The two MKs relayed this message

to Minister of Tourism Moshe Kol,

who is already on record as favour-

ing "controlled" charter flights

despite outright opposition from El

Al.

In another tourist trade develop-

ment, Minister Kol has announced

that tourists making pur-

chases in foreign currency at any

of the country's 600 approved tourist

shops will now receive a discount of

25 per cent instead of the 15 per cent

granted until now. Addressing a con-

ference of tourist shop operators in

Shafayim recently, Mr. Kol conceded

that the change was needed in

view of the wide price differential

between the official and black

market rate for the dollar. Lately,

tourists have almost ceased to buy

with foreign currency since they are

being approached by people who

offer them considerably more for

their foreign currency than do the

banks or shops authorized to accept

payment in foreign currency.

CO-OP SUPERMARKETS turnover

between January and November

came to IL469.7m., an increase of

53.8 per cent or IL182.9m. more than

Tourists may open bank
account in local currency

Tourists may open a "tourist's current account" in Israeli currency if they wish, but there is no requirement that they do so.

This was stated on Tuesday by the Minister of Finance, Moshe Kol, in reaction to an announcement to the contrary that had been made by the Hoteliers Association.

The spokesman said that hoteliers would be credited with foreign currency earnings (like exporters) whether guests paid their bills in foreign currency or by a cheque drawn on a tourist's current account in Israeli currency.

KIBBUTZ HULDA has recently begun to manufacture transformers covered by a special synthetic material to give protection against damp.

Textile industry needs
long-term planning

The Government should draft a long-term plan to keep Israel's textile industry competitive in world markets because 80,000 wage-earners depend on the industry's prosperity.

Yigal Horowitz, the chairman of the Knesset Economic Committee, recommended this at a recent committee session.

A representative of the Manufacturers Association, David Yakovitz, predicted that thousands of textile workers would be jobless. A representative of the Commerce Ministry, Yosef Gur-Aryeh, promised his Ministry's help to the textile manufacturers to overcome problems posed by foreign competitors.

Justice Landau then went on to discuss in comprehensive detail all the statements made by the dead woman and came to the conclusion that the discrepancies in them gave rise to reasonable doubt as to the reliability of her death-bed statement and that the appellant was entitled to benefit from this doubt. He held, therefore, that the appellant could not have been convicted on the strength of the dead woman's last statement (if in fact a court would convict a person solely on the strength of such a statement) and as there was no other positive incriminating evidence against him, he should be acquitted.

Appeal allowed and appellant acquitted.

Judgment given on December 14, 1975.

Death-bed statement
insufficient grounds
for conviction

IN THE SUPREME COURT
SITTING AS COURT OF CRIMINAL
APPEALS
Before the Deputy President
(Justice Sussman), Justices Landau
and Kahen.
Yecheskel Emkay, Appellant.
v. The State of Israel, Respondent
(Cr. A.257/74).

LAW
REPORTThe Jerusalem Post
Edited by Doris Lankin

THE SUPREME COURT allowed an appeal against a judgment of the Jerusalem District Court delivered on May 21, 1974 (in Cr.C. 96/73).

The late Chana Machmani died on March 5, 1973, of burns she had received in the early hours of February 14, 1973. A few hours after she had been admitted to hospital she told two police detectives that she had set fire to herself as she was tired of her life; but from the afternoon of the same day, after being visited by her aunt and brother, she changed her story and alleged that her boy-friend, Yecheskel Emkay, had poured petrol over her and set her alight. She subsequently repeated this story with variations several times to different witnesses, the last occasion being on March 3, two days before her death. When, for the first time, she told a witness, Gad Harari, that she had quarrelled with Emkay and in the course of the quarrel he had set her alight.

The District Court, by majority decision, found Emkay guilty of murdering Chana Machmani on the strength of all her statements, relying to this end on section 10(3) of the Evidence Ordinance (New Version) which provides that: "Evidence of a statement made by a person on whom an act of violence is alleged to have been committed and relating to such act of violence or attendant circumstances is admissible even if the person who made the statement is not present as a witness and cannot be produced at the trial because of his death... so long as one of the following applies to the statement: ... (3) it was made when the person was, or believed himself to be, dying as a direct consequence of the act of violence."

In the appeal against the District Court verdict Mr. S. Tausig-Cohen appeared for the appellant and Mr. Rosenfeld, Assistant State Attorney, for the State.

JUDGMENT

Justice Landau, who delivered the judgment of the Supreme Court, Justice Sussman and Kahen concurring, first discussed the implications of section 10(3). This Section, he noted, provides for one of the exceptions to the "hearsay" rule of evidence and its purpose is to ensure that justice be done when the victim of an act of violence, who dies in consequence of this act, was also the only witness, as often occurs. But before the statement of such a victim is admissible, he continued, it must first be proved that the victim, at the time he made the statement, was either actually dying, or at least believed himself to be dying, on the assumption that this gives at least some assurance that the statement made was true (see also C.A. 16/49, P.D. 2/572).

providing for these two alternatives, he continued, Israel law differs from English law which requires that both the objective and the subjective conditions exist together before the hearsay statement of a dying witness be deemed to be admissible. The local law is, therefore, less stringent, in that it does not require both that the victim be actually dying and believe himself to be dying when he makes his statement. But, if the victim does not have to believe he is dying when he makes the state-

ment, then there does not appear to be any cause for distinguishing between him and any other person, in so far as his assumed veracity is concerned.

Furthermore, even when a victim does believe himself to be dying, it would also depend upon his own personality, and upon the circumstances in which he makes his statement, whether it could be deemed to be reliable and true or not. So that, held Justice Landau, while the main object (that of ensuring that justice be done) of admitting the death-bed statement of the victim of an act of violence must always be kept in mind, it should also not be forgotten that there is a fundamental shortcoming in admitting such evidence, and that is that it reaches the court through a secondary source and its veracity cannot be examined by the usual method of cross examination and personal assessment of the witness' reliability.

Turning to the case under consideration, Justice Landau held that an examination of the evidence showed that although Chana Machmani had been in a critical state from the moment she had been brought into the hospital, the doctors had held out hope for her survival at first and it was only during the last two or three days of her life that her situation was felt to be hopeless. She could not therefore be deemed to have been dying, within the meaning of section 10(3), until this last stage (see also Cross on Evidence, 3rd ed. p.44). He thought, therefore, contrary to the District Court's opinion, that all the statements made by the deceased woman before this period were inadmissible, as not being death-bed statements, and the only statement which was admissible was that made to the witness Harari on March 3, two days before her death, in which she had accused the appellant of setting her alight during the course of a quarrel. On this day, Chana Machmani had also believed that she was dying in accordance with her statement to Harari.

However, continued Justice Landau, although the dead woman's other statements were not admissible as evidence, the defence had been entitled to refer to them in order to show up the discrepancies between them and her last statement to Harari, as these discrepancies indicate a lack of consistency and influence the amount of weight to be attached to the incriminating nature of the death-bed statement.

Justice Landau then went on to discuss in comprehensive detail all the statements made by the dead woman and came to the conclusion that the discrepancies in them gave rise to reasonable doubt as to the reliability of her death-bed statement and that the appellant was entitled to benefit from this doubt. He held, therefore, that the appellant could not have been convicted on the strength of the dead woman's last statement (if in fact a court would convict a person solely on the strength of such a statement

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THURSDAY, JANUARY 1, 1976 • VOL. XLVI, No. 13592

LICENCE FOR TERROR

THE GOVERNMENT OF ALGERIA, after first granting political asylum to the six OPEC terrorist kidnappers, has now allowed them to leave for neighbouring Libya.

This is just what may have been expected. Algeria's career as a refuge and base for Palestinian "revolutionaries" of all nationalities goes at least as far back as 1968, when an El Al plane, hijacked en route from Rome to Lod, was forcibly landed in Algiers. The crew and passengers were promptly incarcerated, and the hijackers released. Algeria's reputation and standing in the world did not seem to suffer as a result.

Ever since then Palestinian terrorists have been operating in the knowledge that, no matter how bloody their deeds, they would always find safe haven after the fact in friendly Algeria. Or, for that matter, in kindly Libya. The Carlos gang from Vienna is merely the last in a long series of such guests, whose credentials are their dedication and commitment to the cause of Israel's destruction.

The widespread indifference which greeted Algeria's show of open collaboration with the Carlos gang is not surprising therefore. Austria asked for extradition, simply as a matter of good form, since the attack had taken place in Vienna, but no one would have expected it to carry the matter beyond Algeria's contemptuous rejection. Carlos himself is "wanted" in Paris for the previous murder of three persons, but the French Government made it quite plain that it would not risk alienating Algeria, a key country in France's bid for alliance with the Arab oil producers, by a vain attempt to bring a criminal to trial.

By the same token, however, no one should expect Israel to recognize the validity of the licence for terror which the nations of the world have in effect issued afresh to Israel's enemies.

AN END TO FEUDING

IT HAS LONG been painfully obvious that the present incumbents of the Chief Rabbinate have passed the point of no return in their constant and bitter feuding. If nothing is done we face another two full years of this spectacle, before the chief rabbis' term of office has run its statutory course.

At the same time, it is widely realized that a mere change in personnel will not solve the problem. It is the system that is at fault — the system that asks of two men to do the work of one, and to do it harmoniously.

The system perpetuates a division which seems more and more anachronistic as time goes on, and which represents a complete negation of the idea of Jewish unity. The division, between Ashkenazi and Sephardi chief rabbis, is, moreover, not dictated by the Halacha, in which communal differences are largely superficial and ceremonial. And existing communal traditions and singularities would not necessarily be obliterated, or even blurred, if one chief rabbi took over where two have lamentably — but perhaps inevitably — failed.

The need for a basic change in the system has lately been mooted within the Labour Party, whose previous faith in the innovative ability of Rabbi Shlomo Goren is now all but shattered. Not much has been said about this in public for fear of upsetting the chief coalition partner, the NRP.

This week, however, has seen a call for radical reform of the chief rabbinate from a leading figure in the NRP, the Director-General of the Ministry for Religious Affairs, David Glass. It is unlikely that he spoke without advance party support.

Unfortunately, neither Glass' proposal — for an alternating chief rabbinate — nor the proposal made by some Sephardi MKs for a Sephardi-only chief rabbinate, holds a true remedy. Both proposals would not only perpetuate but would actually sharpen the Sephardi-Ashkenazi division.

Neither proposal takes account of the many other grave faults of the present system, and particularly of the indefensible link between the chief rabbinate and the rabbinical courts, whose joint presidents are the two chief rabbis. Morale in these courts is at its nadir, as the entire system of judicial appointments has become enmeshed with the personal politics of the two courts presidents.

Certainly, what is needed is a single chief rabbi, a man of stature and eminence, elected by a broadly-based electoral college of clerics and laymen without regard for communal origin. This chief rabbi should be vested with well-defined legal authority to carry out his duties, and he should not be involved in any way with the religious courts on the one hand, and with the Ministry for Religious Affairs on the other.

THERE WAS an ambivalence about the recent meeting of the Jerusalem Committee which lent a curious uneasiness to its proceedings. Despite the positive headlines in the world press which its findings won for Jerusalem, this ambivalence raises serious questions about the Committee's future.

"Frankly, I don't know what's expected of us," said one of the participants on the eve of the meeting. Four days of deliberations did not clarify the matter.

Neither the members nor the organizers seem yet to have a clear idea of what the Committee is supposed to be — a high-level advisory panel seriously reviewing the city's policies in physical planning and other spheres and offering concrete suggestions or a gathering of friends come to offer support to Mayor Teddy Kollek and Jerusalem at a difficult time.

The Committee had acted in the former capacity in 1970 when it savaged the just-completed Jerusalem master plan, causing a basic reappraisal of planning in the capital and directly affecting the city's face, for better or for worse. (The Committee played an important role in reducing the extensive road system planned and in backing a limitation on high-rise construction. But the Housing Ministry seized upon the Committee's bludgeoning of the planning authorities to push through its own plan for a large housing development at Ramat.)

Beleaguered Israel

This time, however, things were different. UNESCO had virtually expelled Israel for its archaeological excavations in Jerusalem. The General Assembly had in all solemnity equated Zionism with racism. There had been the Yom Kippur War. Israel was beleaguered. The members of the Jerusalem Committee had no wish, in these circumstances, to provide grist for the anti-Israel propaganda mills.

If they could not undertake a serious critical review of municipal policies, then what were they to do? This was the dilemma which was never quite resolved.

THE ESTABLISHMENT of the committee by Mayor Teddy

Jerusalem Committee must come out of its splendid isolation

After seven years and four meetings, the Jerusalem Committee is still not sure of its *raison d'être*. Jerusalem Post reporter ABRAHAM RABINOVICH argues that it constitutes a reservoir of great expertise, put at the disposal of Jerusalem free of charge, which could be used in activist, innovative ways that could have a direct impact on life and thought in the Capital.

Kollek after the Six Day War had been an act of statecraft, the kind usually conceived in foreign ministries, not town halls. Despite the general euphoria which followed the reunification of the city in 1967, Kollek was aware that the battle over the city's political future was yet to be faced.

By forming an advisory committee composed mostly of world renowned planners, educators, artists, churchmen and historians, and inviting them periodically to see the development of the city and review municipal policies, he intended to head off pressure for the internationalization of Jerusalem. The establishment of the Committee, he said, was Israel's recognition of the universal character of Jerusalem — not its international character. Through it, the international community would have an influence on the development of the city cherished by three religions — this while implicitly supporting the concept of Jerusalem as a united city and capital of Israel.

Jerusalem is probably the only city in the world that could bring together men of the calibre of Buckminster Fuller, the late Louis Kahn, and Philip Johnson, artists like Henry Moore, Max Bill and Isaku Noguchi, Western press barons and Indian poets, African clergymen and South American statesmen, all taking time out of busy lives to travel thousands of miles in order to

discuss the development of a city with a population of less than 350,000.

After seven years and four meetings, Kollek's bold idea remains as valid as ever in theory. This year's meeting, however, constituted a warning that it might founder in practice. On the one hand, the Committee members found it too difficult to point an instructive finger while leaning over backwards. On the other, Kollek, haunted by the memory of 1970, was not eager for a free-wheeling public discussion of controversial issues, particularly at this politically difficult time.

Rubber stamp

IF, HOWEVER, the Committee cannot be a forum for serious discussion it will become a rubber stamp. And, regardless of their sympathies, it is not likely that men and women of the stature of those on the Jerusalem Committee will agree to act as rubber stamps.

It is this integrity which gave substance to even the latest relatively toothless meeting. Although they did not come to grips with issues of the day the prestigious international body did reaffirm the most important things which needed reaffirming in Jerusalem today.

"In a world of distressing frictions and intolerance," said its final resolution "Jerusalem observes and encourages religious and communal freedom, full access to its holy

places, a deep respect for the cultural heritage of all its citizens and all mankind."

The Committee members plainly believed this to be true or they would not have put their names to it. But for them to continue to bear witness to this basic aspect of life in Jerusalem they must also be active participants in the affairs of the city with real issues to sink their teeth into.

Aside from its political value, the Committee constitutes a reservoir of great expertise put at the disposal of Jerusalem free of charge. It has hardly been exploited. Some senior municipal planning officials resent the idea of outside experts winging it from the West, telling the locals how to do things and then winging home. Others, however, including those preparing the city's new physical plan, are quite willing, indeed eager, to be able to use the foreign planners on the Committee, with their wealth of experience, as sounding boards. For them to be able to serve as such effectively, however, the Committee members must be fed a steady stream of relevant planning information in the two year intervals between their meetings and provided before their arrival with detailed outlines of the plans they will be asked to comment on. In addition, the length of their stay would have to be extended since the two days they generally have to look at plans is grossly insufficient.

A plea repeated by participants in the recent meeting was that their know-how and experience need not be only in physical planning. At the recent meeting, one of the world's foremost experts on adult education, Hellmut Becker of the Max Planck Institute in Berlin, suggested the creation of a sub-committee on education, and Kollek seems likely to accept the idea. Architect Jaap Bakema of Rotterdam, one of the principal figures in the reconstruction of that city after the Second World War, initiated a resolution calling for greater citizen involvement in Jerusalem affairs through neighbourhood organizations along the lines adopted in Holland. Architect Larry Halprin of San Francisco, who is at present designing the Roosevelt Memorial in Washington, said he would prefer to have the Committee's next meeting avoid planning altogether in favour of a study of cultural and social development in the city.

Instead of arranging for the Committee's meetings to be held in splendid isolation, Mayor Kollek should see to it that future meetings include direct face-to-face encounters with the local architectural community, with educators — including those in experimental and special education — with students, with community organizers, with youth gang workers and perhaps members of youth gangs themselves, with theatre groups and young artists. The possibilities are limited only by the imagination and the membership of the Committee could be expanded to include other leaders in disciplines which could be utilized for the improvement of life in Jerusalem, not just at the macro-scale of city plans but at the human scale as well. The immense resources of the Committee should be used not in largely sterile and passive reviews of status reports presented to them around a conference table but in activist, innovative ways that could have a direct impact on life and thought in Jerusalem.

From Jerusalem will go forth the Word, but the Committee offers a unique opportunity for the city to gather unto itself as well the wisdom of the world.

WITH PREJUDICE / ALEX BERLYNE

Of belly spongers, bosom pressers and keep-off girls

DON'T THINK last week's column about jobs was mere theorizing. I've had practical experience of unmet needs in my time, many of them vacation jobs during my student days.

I can't say I really adorned any of them.

Take for instance, the time I was a window-dresser in a large department store, loathing the public fumbling with nude plaster mannequins and made even more miserable by the little cotton moccasins we were forced to wear. Dennis, the head dresser, finally went too far. "I think your ideas are superb," he liped, "but the detail is poor."

"What do you mean by that?" I snarled. "One can see the pins," he chirruped.

I've detested art critics ever since. Trying my hand at the retail tobacco business, I hardly lasted the week. It was my misfortune to man the kiosk during the worst days of the Austerity period. The boss warned

lads entering growth industries like computers or electronics. I remember the old boys I once knew who had been the victims of shrink industries — the saddle and harness makers, the silent movie accompanists made redundant by the release of "The Jazz Singer."

The process is still going on. Only three vinegar men are left. Smelling like so many pickled onions, their job was to free rusted bolts on British Rail's wooden coal wagons using acetic acid, the only fluid noted for its bolt-shifting qualities.

Mr. Fred Darrington is the last of Britain's sand sculptors. For 50 years he's been modelling Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs, cathedrals and luscious nudes out of the sand on Weymouth beach. He was once invited to exhibit in Australia but the deal fell through when he insisted on taking with him 40 tons of Weymouth sand, "the best there is."

Instant surgery. Some of his patients were born as long ago as 1820. "They don't make them like that any more," he complains. "These days dolls fall to pieces as soon as you look at them."

Another dying profession has only one practitioner, 23-year-old Greg Bright who designs mazes and labyrinths and is currently laying one out at Longleat, one of England's stately homes.

Patey's, near the Elephant and Castle, are the last of the made-to-measure top hat makers and supply the hunting set as well as hotel doormen with this rather unfashionable item of headgear. As a sideline they do you a nice mortar board or ceremonial tricorne. "The biggest head we've had to deal with was the King of Tonga's," the manager reported recently. It was a tricorne for his coronation, size 8 1/2.

Edie and Ravenscroft of Chancery Lane are practically a world monopoly of household wigs for the legal profession, as well as making royal, legal, academic and civil robes. Not surprisingly the customers tend to be conservative. Not long ago one backwoods peer wanted them to repair his robes which must have been 300-400 years old. He was told, "Well, we might be able to put in a few stitches for you and that might make it last another year or two, but after that it looks as if you are going to need a new one."

The most extraordinary official robe I know of is that worn by the Emir of Katina's crowd controller. This official wears a sort of enormous crinoline made of bramble bushes and simply wades into any unruly assembly in this Northern Nigerian emirate which needs dispersing in a hurry.

PEOPLE SEEM TO BE fascinated by out-of-the-rut jobs. Israel TV's popular "That's My Secret" programme, compered by Uri Zohar, draws a hundred letters daily, producer Yitzhak Kol tells me. Loosely modelled on the American and British "What's My Line?" series, the show relies heavily on "surprise" occupations like the Shalom Tower's window cleaner, a leech "healer," a sheesh-beesh champion or Mr. Itzhak Berman. The latter is a natural for the show. Not only is he a flag and hunting maker by profession, but he is also the father of quintuplets which, I suppose, may be categorized among the more unusual hobbies.

Some jobs are not nearly as extraordinary as their descriptions seem to indicate. This was brought home to me recently when I read of the appointment of an ombudsman for the British legal profession to whom complaints against solicitors can be referred. Rear-Admiral Charles Godfrey Place, VC, holds the delightfully named office of Lay Observer.

Her Majesty's Stationery Office "Classification of Occupations" booklet is a mine of odd-job information, particularly under the heading of "Code 97: All Other and Undefined Occupations." This list includes Ar-

ticultators of Bones and Skeletons, Clock Winder, Maggot Breeder, Marquee Erector, Pavement Artist and Synagogue Collector. The latter does not refer to a man who actually collects synagogue copper sheets for smelting while what appears to be her opposite number, a Keep-Off Girl, notes suspicious claims for an insurance company. Rod Pullers work in concrete production, while Screen Apes have nothing to do with "King Kong" or "Tarzan" but simply operate the screens which grade coal in the mines.

The most unlikely employment I ever heard of, however, is carried out on behalf of London Transport by Mr. Leonard Ware. Every morning he sets off to work armed with a pocketful of erasers, a razor blade and a penknife. His mission is to destroy the work of countless frustrated artists who derive some secret pleasure from putting out posters which they feel the designer unaccountably left out.

Mr. Ware is the official rubber-out of beards and moustaches.

Irons shirt fronts in a laundry. A Bridal Illusion Importer deals in wedding accessories and a Bottom Duster cleans completed shoes before the polish is applied. A Flagger flattens copper sheets for smelting while what appears to be her opposite number, a Keep-Off Girl, notes suspicious claims for an insurance company. Rod Pullers work in concrete production, while Screen Apes have nothing to do with "King Kong" or "Tarzan" but simply operate the screens which grade coal in the mines.

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READERS' LETTERS

Alsop's obituary 'unfounded'

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post

Sir, — Joseph Alsop's lamentations are premature. After 28 years of struggle and five shooting wars, Israel remains the most stable state in the Middle East. After a decade of adversity in Vietnam, and 30 years of cold war, this is not about to disintegrate in the face of Mr. Alsop's dire predictions.

Nothing will heal America from post Vietnam's fragmentation and creeping "Detente" impotence, like the healthy and honourable involvement with the protection of a "deserving" ally. There is spiritual therapy in the commitment of the world's largest and most powerful democracy to the survival of the world's smallest and most powerful democracy.

As to Mr. Alsop's estimate that support for Israel is evaporating among the American people, there is not a jot of objective evidence to support this contention. On the contrary,

every poll, every vote of Congress (including the Senate) every budget, every crisis, has shown that the American people cherish the security of Israel in an overwhelming fashion.

Americans do not fault American Jews who exercise their rights as free citizens to support candidates who respond positively to the needs of Israel, because most Americans have old world ties. Americans are deeply involved in what happens in Athens, Rome, Seoul and Dublin, as well as Jerusalem, without being tainted by scare tactics of neo-isolationists.

Time will tell the wisdom of Israeli concessions and American arbitration in the Middle East, and the sincerity of Arab intentions. Mistakes have been made, and are being made. But Mr. Alsop's "obituary" to American-Israeli friendship is unfounded.

MORDECAI S.B.A.U.M.
Brooklyn, December 22



The Emir Katina's crowd controller has the right answer to a thorny problem.

me to serve only the regulars and to ration them to 50 cigarettes a week. Unfortunately for me, but to the delight and amazement of the customers, I failed to distinguish between packets of 50 and those of 500.

The picture-faking business then claimed me. For the benefit of the uninitiated I had better explain that this has nothing to do with forging Old Masters but is a way of selling frames at grossly inflated prices. A door-to-door salesman shows householders a beautifully painted portrait in a gold frame. "We can do this from a snapshot of your dear departed," he tells them. The map is enlarged and sprayed with crude colours by aspiring artists like me, using an airbrush and following the notes on the back (blond hair, blue eyes, khaki uniform, etc.).

One widow was reputed to have asked the salesman if he could "remove the bowler hat." He agreed (it could be retouched with the airbrush) and asked "What side did your husband part his hair on, Madam?"

"Oh, you'll see that when you take his hat off," she replied.

NOWADAYS, when I think of likely

London has only one lamplighter left and his round is confined to the gas lamps of the Inner and Middle Temple. All the rest light up automatically. Ivan Ramnath, a Guyanese, is the last of the breed immortalized by Robert Louis Stevenson: "My tea is nearly ready and the sun has left the sky / It's time to take the window to see Leerie going by / For every night at tea time and before you take your seat / With lantern and with ladder he comes posting up the street."

Tom Oulthwaite, a Yorkshire romemaker, had been looking for a successor for over two years when Dr. Peter Annison, a science lecturer at Trent Polytechnic, decided he wanted to sample the bucolic life. Now Dr. Annison is twisting sisal, cotton and hemp into cowbells for the local Buttercups and traces for the farm horses.

In Manchester one of the last of the doll surgeons, "Doc" Higgins, has been practising his profession for 40 years. Operating on 50 dolls a week, he was doing transplants long before Christiana Barnard hit the headlines and has spare eyes, arms and legs stored in rows of sweet jars ready for

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